

GRANDVIEW

DRAWER 11A

TOWNS - LINCOLN INTEREST

71.2009 OFC 05/09

Indiana

Cities & Towns

Grandview

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

LINCOLN MARKERS IN SPENCER

Rockport has erected a tablet to mark the place where Lincoln was entertained in 1844 and a movement has been started at Terre Haute to erect a memorial at Lincoln City by the Sons of Veterans. We have tablets at Lincoln City to mark the cabin location of the Lincoln home and the grave of his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, but the interesting points in the county where Lincoln visited upon one mission or another are as yet largely unmarked. The auto is making travel popular and citizens of the county should help the travelers find these locations in which they are interested. Ask any business man what this might mean and he can tell you of advantages in having markers erected. The site of the log school where Abe attended classes, the site of the store where he borrowed books, the site of the squire's court where he acted as lawyer; all should be marked. Then, too, we might put a marker at the old tan yard where he brought the calf skin, the place where he loaded hoop poles here in Grandview should receive attention. Kentucky and Illinois have done this and why not Indiana? Are we going to tell the tourists we are not interested in Abe Lincoln's life among us? Why not help them, for it will surely help us.

—Grandview Monitor.

Grandview Monitor 2-22-26

LINCOLN LORE

Stories of Abe Gathered From Older Citizens of the County.

The Monitor - 10-14-1926

The editor has recently received requests for copies of *The Monitor* of date of August 26, 1920, and we find we have no copies to spare so will reprint the article, with others stories of Abe Lincoln during his residence in Spencer county.

Abe Saved the Farm.

Mrs. Mary J. Scott, a great niece of Joe Richardson, who lived near the Jones' store and often clerked for Jones, says she has never seen the following in print and thinks it as worthy as other stories:

Thomas Lincoln, father of Abe, was not much in favor of book learning and often hid or threw away the books with which Abe "was fooling away his time." He often found fault with Abe for thus using time that he thought might have been better employed at other things, but that one day Abe gave good evidence of the value of his learning.

One autumn Abe was cutting corn for a Mr. Carter at the wage of ten cents a day, and his employer and Thomas Lincoln bargained to transfer a portion of the Lincoln farm. Carter wrote the deed and presented it to Lincoln for his signature. Abe looked over the deed before his father affixed his signature and said, "If you sign that deed you have sold your whole farm." The bargain was for a certain field and not the whole farm. Thomas Lincoln looked Carter in the eye and said, "Somebody lied and 'taint Abe." As was the custom in those days a fist fight followed.

After this event, Thomas Lincoln never scolded Abe for reading books.

Mrs. Scott has been a teacher in the Grandview schools and says she at one time attended school in the log church where the Lincoln family worshiped and that James Romine was the teacher.

Lincoln Split Rail for Fifty Cents a Day.

Mrs. Scott and Rev. John Bunner state that Lincoln split rails for Silas Crawford for twenty-five cents per hundred and that two hundred was a good day's work.

Goose Lawyer Lincoln.

Abe Lincoln liked to hear the lawyers plead and debate and when he could would walk to Boonville and listen to the lawyers during the trials and often listened to John Brachenridge, who later moved to Texas; and called on Lincoln when the latter was occupying the White House.

One day Abe was attending a trial in a local Justice of the Peace court, in which some geese had trespassed upon the land of a neighbor and left damage. The lawyer for the defendant failed to appear and the court

called on Abe to take the absentee's place and he won the case. He was often called "Goose Lawyer Abe" after this case.

Loaded Hoop Poles at Grandview.

We are told that in the early days every citizen endeavored to get the corn crop "laid by" before the season of chills and fever, and that during the latter season Abe came to Grandview and loaded hoop poles on a flatboat. This was in the days when every store carried a stock of dry goods and whiskey, but Abe never partook of the latter.

Wanted His Father's Hide Tanned.

One fall a calf, owned by Thomas Lincoln, became mired in the spring and drowned and its hide was brought to Grandview by Abe, who delivered it at the tanyard (located on what is now the Tom Woolfolk farm) with the statement that "his father wanted his hide tanned." After looking over the plant he return to his home.

Rode the Ox Back to Camp.

When the family moved west to Illinois, one of the oxen slipped its tie during the night and Abe was sent to hunt it. David Turnham found the animal browsing near his barn and turned it into the enclosure, as he knew some of the Lincolns would soon be after it. When Abe appeared it refused to be caught but Abe managed to get upon its back and he told Mr. Turnham to open the gate. The last seen of Abe was on the loping ox going west.

By MARTIN W. HANSEN

GRANDVIEW, Feb. 11.—(Special)—Pioneer trails, hallowed by the long strides of Abraham Lincoln during the days of his lithe and strapping youth, have been marked by the people of this community; and these markers, two in number with nine bronze tablets on their sides, are to be dedicated and unveiled here tomorrow, the anniversary of Lincoln's birth 119 years ago.

History as it came from the mouths of pioneers who knew the Lincolns, that never before has been published, is to be read to the crowd of thousands expected to attend the unveiling ceremonies.

A personal sort of history, this—how Lincoln wrestled with the Lamar, the Hammond, and the Day boys, how he brought corn to be ground in the grist mill at Grandview, how he borrowed books from this good neighbor and that.

AGED RESIDENT TO ATTEND

The event is sponsored by the Grandview Lincoln Trail club, organized by the historically minded of the community on February 15, 1927. Lieut. Governor F. Harold Van Orman will be the principal speaker. The ceremonies will start at 1:30 o'clock and will be held on the principal intersection of Main street, the public library corner.

Among the expected assemblage at the unveiling of the historical markers and tablets depicting incidents in the pioneer life about the time of Lincoln's sojourn in Indiana, will be men and women who are direct descendants of the frontiersmen who knew Tom Lincoln's son for his athletic prowess, his ready wit, and for the yoke of oxen he drove.

It will be therefore in the nature of a personal way of paying homage to the memory of the greatest man ever produced by Spencer county, as well as a public commemoration of his birthday anniversary. For did not these pioneer ancestors of residents of Grandview and Spencer county in general, have something to do with moulding the character of the man who was to become the Great Emancipator?

HUMAN INTEREST HISTORY

Lincoln was a Hoosier. He spent the formative years of his life in Spencer county—from the age of six to the age of 21—and acquired here on the banks of the Ohio river, the traits of mind and character which made him great. That sort of gospel has been preached for months and years. It is even at the root of the gigantic campaign to raise more than a million dollars for the erection of appropriate memorials to him in Lincoln City, undertaken not long ago by the Indiana Lincoln Union.

In getting at the little personal incidents in the life of Lincoln, the people of Grandview have drawn on the memories of the oldest natives of the community as well as the facts otherwise gathered by historians affiliated with the Southwestern Indiana and the Spencer County Historical societies.

Even the memorial tablets of bronze, which adorn the sides of the two time-resisting concrete markers and the markers themselves, were designed and executed by a sculptor, George Honig of Evansville, whose family tree is traced back directly to the pioneers who rubbed elbows with the great Lincoln in his youth.

"HE TRAVELED THIS WAY"

The largest of the markers, which stands at the principal intersection in Grandview's Main street, is eight feet high and has four sides for bronze markers. Another marker with three bronze markers, has been erected on the front lawn of the New Hope Baptist church a mile and a half from Grandview.

"Abraham Lincoln traveled this

way,—1821—1830," a marker on each side of the tablets, proclaims.

One of the most intriguing of these bronze tablets is on the Grandview marker: "Abraham Lincoln traveled this way hauling hoop-poles with an oxteam to the river landing; visited Ezekiel Ray—the old Block House—Hammond's tannery; and traded jokes and wrestled with the pioneer boys in Hammond township."

This reference to hoop-poles indicates that Abraham Lincoln was not exclusively a rail-splitter. Rail-splitting was a matter of necessity for home consumption. Cutting of hoop-poles—slender wittles of hickory saplings to be split in two and used for barrel hoops—was an export industry that brought in cash. And Grandview in those days was the most thriving river port in many miles along the expanse of the Ohio river.

SWAP HORSE FOR MILSTONES

Young Abe Lincoln also drove those oxen to the Lamar grist mill where the pioneer farmers had their corn ground into meal on a percentage basis. One of the millstones, on which Lincoln corn was ground, will be on display at tomorrow's dedication. It must weigh a thousand pounds. It came from the Kentucky river brought by Ben Lamar on a pirogue—a log dugout boat. Ben Lamar traded a black saddle mare for a pair of the millstones, riding the horse to the quarry, and riding the pirogue back with the millstones. Kentucky river millstones, incidentally were known as being the best—hardest—next to the choice ones quarried and fashioned in France.

Even for all its hardness, the millstone was used so much that it was ground down from an original thickness of 10 inches to its present thickness of seven.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lamar Anderson, 88, still living in the house at Grandview, the "grand view" from whose piazza gave the name to the town, is the grandniece of Ben Lamar who operated the grist mill. Uriah Lamar, her grandfather, who was the first justice of the peace in Hammond township, received his land grant in what is now Spencer county, from President James Madison in 1816. The father of her mother, Laura Mason, was killed by the Indians during a land-buying trip.

THE TANNERY INCIDENT

Mrs. Anderson will likely be bundled into a closed car and taken to the celebration by her kinsfolks. She is intensely interested in the historical markers. Didn't Lincoln come to her grandfather's house to borrow books from Justice Lamar's extensive—in those days—library?

Other aged descendants of pioneers who will be at the celebration will be P. Alfred Hammond, who will be 94 years old next May, and his wife Rebecca Shrode Hammond, 87. It was after the pioneer Hammond family that Hammond township, in which Grandview is located, was named. P. Alfred Hammond's father, John Hammond, in fact was an old crony of Abraham Lincoln.

John Hammond kept the tannery in the old Hitchcock bottoms and an incident in the Hammond tannery, is among the oldest of those preserved to posterity as illustrating Abe Lincoln's droll humor.

"There's my father's hide and he

wants it tanned," Abe told the tanner one day as he drove in and tossed out the pelt of a new-killed calf.

This chuckle has been passed on to local historians by the 94-year old Hammond. There's another chuckle in the story Hammond recalled his father telling about Lincoln.

ABE IN BRIAR PATCH

It seems that Lincoln had a wagon load of hoop-poles he was bringing to market. The oxen he was driving, disturbed a swarm of bees, and brought wrath down upon themselves and their driver. In their mad rush they jostled the janky Lincoln into a briar patch. Lizzie Ray Grigsby threw him a hoe so he could cut his way out of the briars—for Lincoln was barefooted as usual.

Now, while the principal marker and most of the bronze tablets are located in the heart of Grandview, and will be dedicated at 1:30 o'clock in the principal ceremony, there'll be another dedication following that, and at the New Hope Baptist church. That marker stands near the site of the Taylor Basye store where the pioneers for miles around did their trading.

One of these tablets describes the store: "Taylor Basye carried \$300 worth of stock. Calico—sugar—coffee—ammunition—saddles—leather—harness—etc. Exchanged wares for fur-skins—feathers—and produce shipped at stated seasons to market." It seems that \$300 worth of merchandise was an enormous stock in those days, in view of the fact that pioneer wants were simple and the pioneer dollar vastly more durable than in these days.

LINCOLN WELL SCHOOLED

Near the site of this store was located the first school, built of logs like the Basye store, and Jonathan Prosser was the teacher. The Grandview historians' version of Lincoln's education is somewhat at variance with what we were led to believe in our own school days. It is admitted that Lincoln probably pored long over his books in front of the fireplace at night, but it is credited to Lincoln as having come from his own lips that Prosser, the schoolmaster, in his teaching, did more real good for the young Lincoln than did any others. Prosser was the only one in the pioneer community who had even a smattering of a college education. And Lincoln made the most of it.

Some of these incidents, as well as dozens of others of equal human interest will be brought out in the course of this 119th anniversary celebration of the birth of Lincoln.



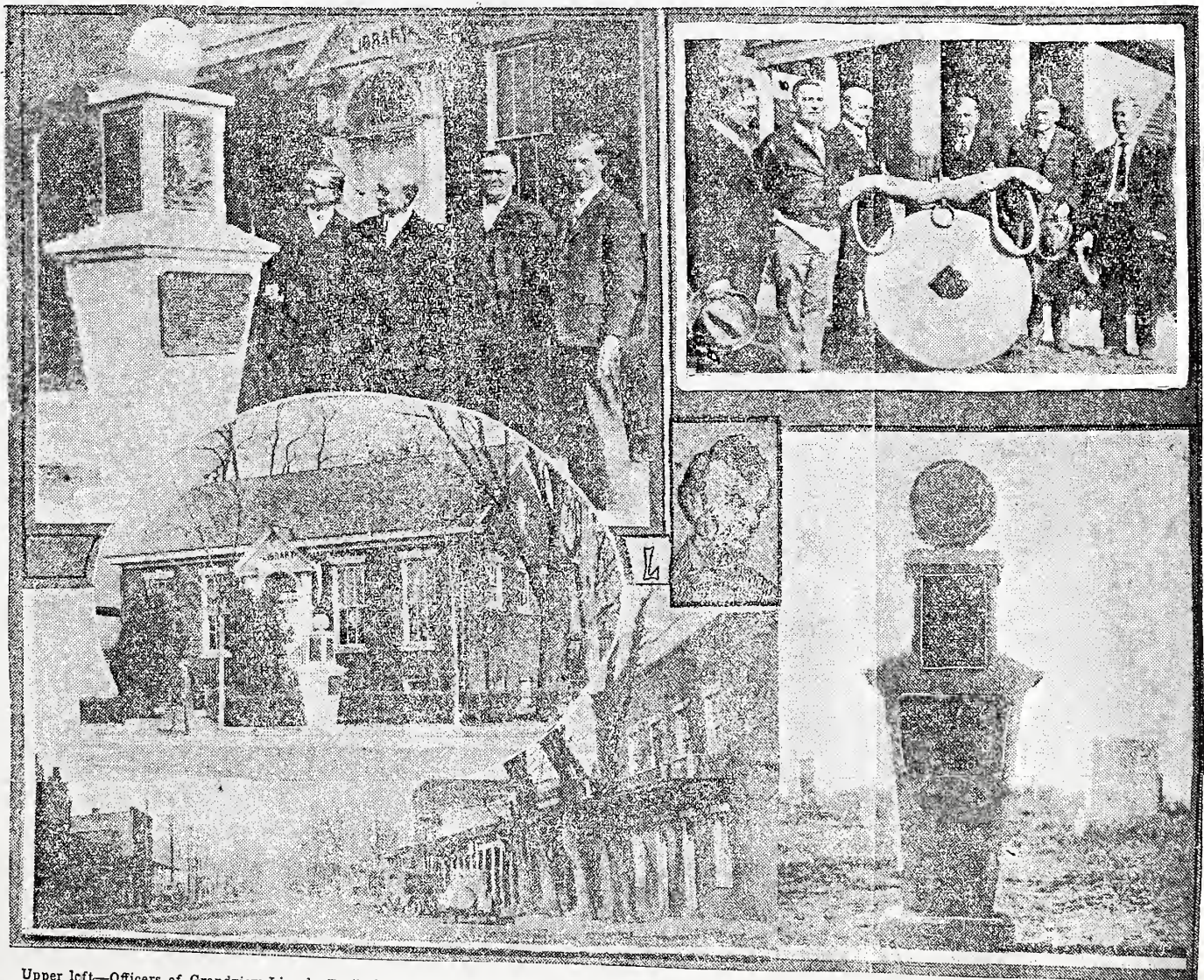
GEORGE HONIG

Evansville sculptor, George Honig, executed the two monuments, dedicated at Grandview yesterday, to mark the trail trod by Abraham Lincoln during his residence in Indiana.

Evansville Courier.

2-12-28

Will Observe Abraham Lincoln's Birthday Today Unveiling Tablets Telling of His Life in Spencer County



Upper left—Officers of Grandview Lincoln Trail club, sponsors of move to erect memorials which will be unveiled today, seen viewing largest of markers which is erected at the principal corner in Grandview. Left to right: Rev. T. A. Bentley, president; Charles T. Baker, secretary; William B. Bunner, treasurer, and Prof. C. E. Lemme, vice president.

Upper right—Public officials have aided the project launched by the Trail club. Here they are seen looking at one of the millstones on which Lincoln had corn ground

more than a century ago. This group, with Bentley at the left consists of: W. T. Cadick, president of the town board; Charles T. Baker, town clerk; James C. Grabbert, trustee; Bert Newman, trustee during 1927; Louis F. Webb sr., trustee.

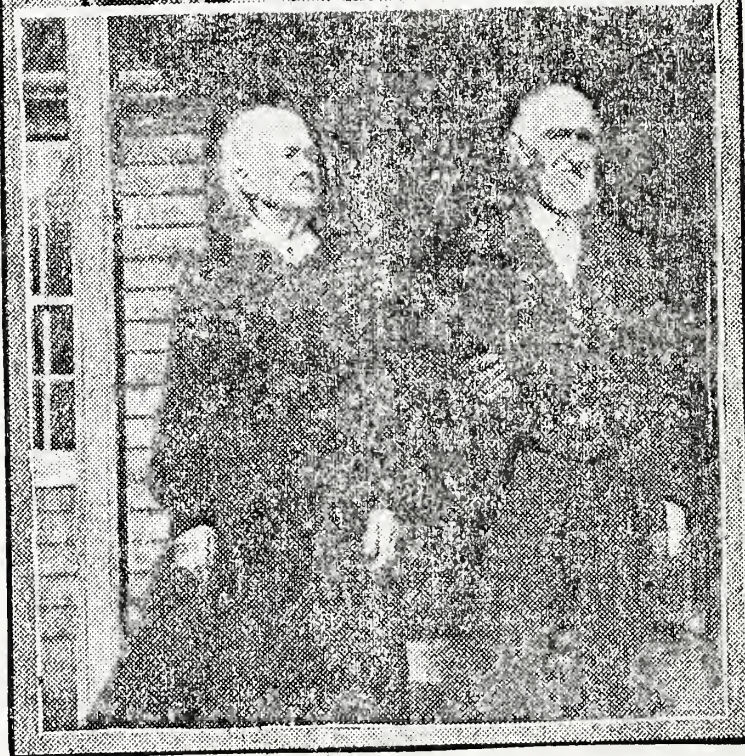
Lower left—Grandview Main street looking north. Oval inset shows closer view of public library in front of which is located the marker.

Lower right—Marker erected at New Hope Baptist church a mile and a half from Grandview. Near here Taylor Basye kept the store where Lincoln traded.

(More Photos on Page 13, This Section)

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TO BE INTERESTED SPECTATORS AT LINCOLN UNVEILINGS TODAY



Courier-Journal Photos

Interested spectators at today's Lincoln birthday celebration in Grandview include sons and daughters of pioneers.

Upper—Mrs. Elizabeth Lamar Anderson, 88, grandniece of Ben Lamar, first justice of the peace in Spencer county. Lamar loaned books to Abraham Lincoln and the two families were closely associated. Mrs. Anderson still lives in Grandview.

Lower—Mr. and Mrs. P. Alfred Hammond, of Grandview. Hammond, who is 94 years old, is the son of John Hammond who kept the tannery at Grandview, and after whom Hammond township was named. Mrs. Hammond is 87.

THRONG OF 3,000 AT LINCOLN TRAIL MARKER SERVICES

By EUGENE J. POWELL

GRANDVIEW, Feb. 12.—(Special)

—Lincoln the emancipator, Lincoln the statesman, but most of all Lincoln the man of broad charity and unbounded sympathy was honored today by approximately 3,000 people, who gathered at the little town of Grandview to unveil monuments marking the pioneer trails hallowed by the giant strides of one of the "greatest Americans," on his 119th birth anniversary.

These markers, two in number, were made possible by the untiring efforts of the Grandview Lincoln club. On one of these markers, in front of the Grandview library, is a bronze tablet with the following inscription: "Abraham Lincoln traveled this way hauling hoop poles with an ox team to the river landing; visited Ezekiel Ray—the old block house—Hammond's tannery; and traded jokes and wrestled with the pioneer boys in Hammond township."

The other marker, at the New Hope church about a mile from Grandview, has the inscription: "Lincoln traveled this way—1821-1830." The monuments are made of time and weather resisting concrete and were executed by George Honig, Evansville sculptor.

VAN ORMAN TALKS

Lieutenant Governor F. Harold Van Orman, principal speaker at the celebration, pleaded with the people to live up to the high standard Lincoln set.

"Perhaps the most pronounced trait in the character of Abraham Lincoln was his broad charity and unbounded sympathy. These traits stand out prominently in everything he ever said or did and carry a significant message to a troubled world.

"These elements of charity and sympathy will go far toward solving the problems of the distressed world today. War and diplomacy have failed thus far; perhaps we need the human touch and the Humanitarian appeal."

"The cry today is for leaders," Van Orman asserted. "Leaders like Lincoln, not thinking of self, of office, of politics, but thinking of their country and of the common people, as did the one man who glorified the common people. The cry is for intelligent and devoted followers also. The two are interrelated. Each is useless, or comparatively so without the other."

CIVIL WAR VETS PRESENT

Four Civil war veterans were at the celebration who had voted for Lincoln, Col. James A. Wright, 96, Rockport; Henry Van Ostrand, Evansville, who heard Lincoln speak at Philadelphia, Pa.; P. A. Hammonds, Grandview, who knew Lincoln when a boy, and Joseph Cissna, Grandview, 91. Col. Wright said he traveled from Memphis, Tenn., partly by foot to get to Rockport in time to vote for Lincoln in 1864.

History as it came from the mouths of pioneers, who knew the Lincolns—history which has never been published—was read by Charles T. Baker, secretary of the Lincoln Trail club and editor of the Grandview Monitor. A personal sort of history—how Lincoln wrestled with the Lamar, Hammond and Day boys—how he brought grist to the mill and borrowed books from his neighbors—illustrating the dry humor of Lincoln, as a boy, who bringing a cow hide to the tannery of John Hammond said, "Here is my father's hide and he wants it tanned."

Many other features of the life of Lincoln as a boy and youth were brought out by Mr. Baker in his paper.

HAD HOOSIER CHARACTER

"Kentucky gave Lincoln birth," Mrs. C. O. Ehrmann, Southwestern Indiana Historical Society president, declared in her speech of welcome. "Illinois gave Lincoln his statesmanship," (Continued on Page Two)

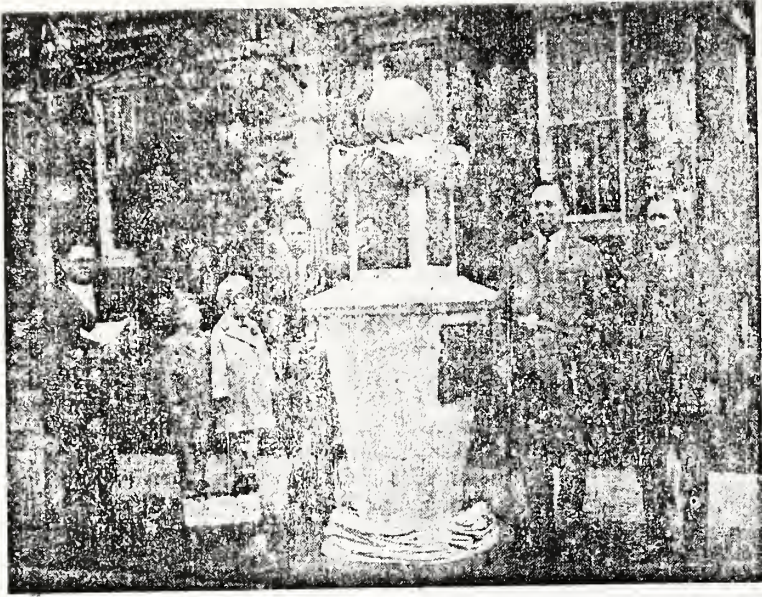
ship, but Indiana gave Lincoln his character."

The Petersburg high school girls' drum corps under the direction of Miss Katharine Duniavay executed a very pleasing drill just before the speaking program. Music was furnished by the Grandview high school glee club and a group of seven negroes who sang in honor of the man who made it possible for them to be born free.

Albert J. Wedeking, of Dale, member of state highway commission, speaker at the New Hope monument, stressed the importance of toeing the line laid down by Lincoln, "with malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us do all which may achieve a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

Other historic spots, associated with the formative years of Lincoln in Indiana, will be marked from time to time by the Lincoln Trail club aided by the Historical society. The officers of the club, who made this celebration possible are the Rev. Arthur P. Bently, president; Prof. Carl E. Lemme, vice president; Charles T. Baker, secretary, and William B. Bunner, treasurer.

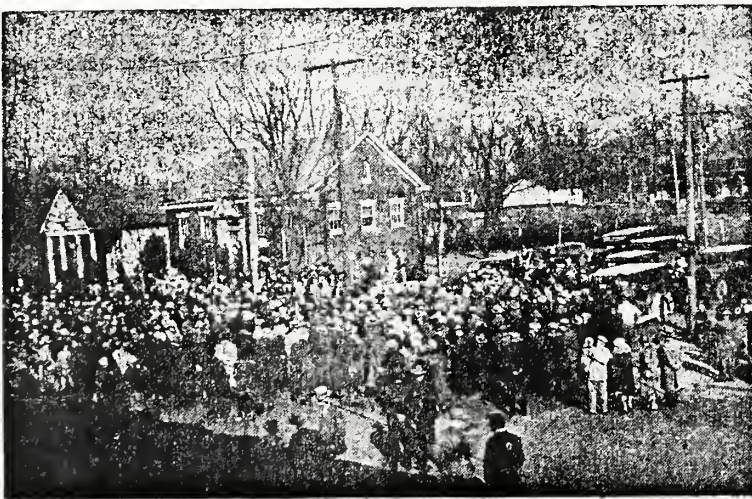
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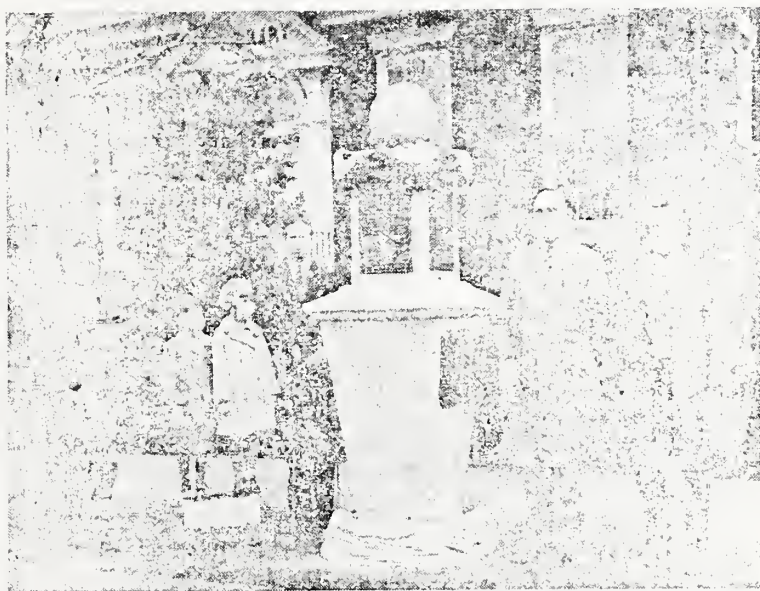
Unveiling the Grandview Marker.

Grandview citizens were considerably disappointed when the word was received that the press photographer did not obtain any pictures during the unveiling of the markers on the 12th of February. Plans were laid to duplicate some of these scenes as near as possible for use in The Monitor at least, and we give the above this week. The picture of the crowd during Lieut. Gov. Van Orman's address was taken on the 12th by James C. Gabbert, and the picture of the unveiling was taken last Saturday by the editor. Jack Sauter, one of the

monitors, was unable to be present for the setting; otherwise, the characters are the same as on the 12th. Reading from left to right the persons are: Rev. A. P. Bentley, president of the Grand View Lincoln Trail Club who presented the marker to the community, Billy Cadick, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Cadick, and Janette Snyder, grand-daughter of Jacob Beanblossom, John Stuteville, Marvin Jones, and Jacob Beanblossom. Billy Cadick and Janette Snyder unveiled the marker, and also the one at New Hope.



Listening to Lieut. Gov. Van Orman.



THE LINCOLN MARKER

This marker was dedicated February 12, 1928, and the parties who unveiled the marker are shown. Through a mishap, pictures supposed to be taken on that day proved worthless and the participants, with one exception were assembled for this "snap." There was a large crowd in town on that day and it was a keen disappointment when the photographer reported "no pictures."

The Monitor

GRANDVIEW, INDIANA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1928.

VAST CROWD AT MARKER UNVEILING

The 119th Birth Anniversary of Lincoln Commemorated
With Fine Program in Which Local History Con-
cerning His Boyhood is Given. Liet. Gov.
Van Orman Principal Speaker.



Not since April 11, 1918, has Grand View entertained such a crowd of visitors as were here Sunday to witness the unveiling of the historic markers. The estimate of the number of people is placed at 3,000 by a number of citizens who have endeavored to be careful with figures.

The day was ideal. The sun was bright. The air was warm, and the robins and mocking birds helped to furnish the music. People began to arrive before noon and looked upon the exhibits of relics in the Gabbert and Monitor windows. We will not attempt to describe these exhibits in this issue, save to mention the fine drawing of Lincoln as a young man by Carl Biedenkopf, a senior in the Grandview high school. It was life-size and a clever work of the pencil.

At the appointed hour the Petersburg drum corps met the school children at the corner of Fifth and Main streets, and led them to their place in front of the speakers stand. The drum corps then gave an exhibition of drill marching.

The school children then sang "America" with the audience and followed with another song.

Dr. Frank Lenig, Ph. D., of Rockport, was then introduced and gave the invocation.

William Wohler gave the address of welcome as only Mr. Wohler can give it and Rev. A. P. Bentley read a letter from Hon. Richard Lieber, who could not be present. Mrs. C. D. Ehrman brought the greetings from the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society in well chosen, complimentary words.

D. E. Cadick was then introduced and he in turn presented Lieut. Gov. F. Harold Van Orman, of Evansville, who gave a most excellent address,

stressing the broad charity and unbounded sympathy of Abraham Lincoln. He stated that these elements of charity and sympathy will go far toward solving the problems of the distressed world today.

Editor Baker then gave some unpublished facts concerning the Lincoln family during their residence in Spencer county.

The colored sextette, of Rockport, was then called to the platform and gave two songs.

The markers were then presented to the community by the president of the Lincoln Trail Club, and dedicated to the influence and memory of the early pioneers.

The marker was then unveiled by Miss Genet Snyder, a grand-daughter of Jacob Beanblossom, and Billy Cadick the young son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Cadick, while the sentinels, Jack Sauter and John Stuteville, assisted.

This concluded the program at this place and a parade was formed for the journey to the New Hope United Brethren church, where the first settlement was made. It is estimated that 400 autos made the trip to New Hope.

Here the program began with a drill by the Petersburg Girls' Drum Corps, followed with a song by the Glee Club of the local high school.

Rev. W. C. Shrde gave the invocation and then Joseph Foraythe came to the platform and told of hearing Harrison speak at Lincoln City from the train, and then introduced Hon. Albert J. Wedeking, of Dale, a member of the state highway commission, who spoke briefly of the importance of following the high ideals given us by Lincoln: "with malice toward none; with charity for

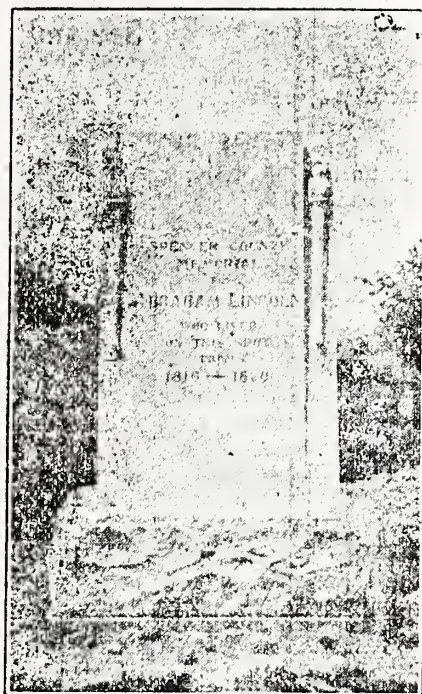
all; with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us do all which may achieve a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

Mr. George H. Honig, the sculptor who designed these markers, and Mr. Basye, of Rockport, whose grandfather had a store near the site, and Henry Van Ostrand, a Civil War veteran, of Evansville, who heard Lincoln make an address, were presented to the audience.

The unveiling of this marker followed in the same manner as the one in Grandview and by the same children.

This closed the program, which surely was of interest as the audience was unusually attentive throughout the lengthy program of more than two hours at Grandview and forty-five minutes at New Hope.

Among the veterans present Sunday were three above ninety years of age, namely: Col. J. S. Wright, 96, of Rockport; P. Alfred Hammond, 94, of Grandview; and Joseph Cissna, 91, of Silverdale.



Marker at Site of Lincoln Home.



Grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln.

GLIMPSES INTO THE PAST

Herewith is a letter from George H. Honig, treasurer of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society, with headquarters at Evansville, relative to the historic early settlement on Blackford creek, in Kentucky, known as Fort Blackford, as it connects with the Indian trails on this side of the Ohio river and influenced early settlement in Spencer county:

In 1780, a man by the name of Blackford built his log cabin on a creek which later was called "Blackford creek," and its location was near the Kentucky trail, known as a warrior trail, running from Owensboro to Hardinsburg, Ky. This trail crossed the Blackford creek at a point almost due south from Grandview, a distance of about five miles. This point on Blackford creek is also almost due west of Hardinsburg. It was almost a direct line from Hardinsburg by this trail to Grandview and, naturally, a short one for settlers to come to points in Indiana within a radius of ten or fifteen miles of Grandview. Hundreds of pioneers followed this trail through Grandview and settled in Huff, Hammond, Ohio, Grass, Carter, Clay and Jackson townships. In fact, about nine-tenths of these pioneers from 1800 to 1830 came into the county that way.

Blackford creek empties into the Ohio river directly opposite the eastern edge of Grandview, practically opposite the mouth of Big Sandy creek.

This settlement on Blackford creek dates back as early as 1800, and prospective settlers were camped here waiting for the treaty to be signed between the Delaware Indians and the United States Government. In 1804 this treaty was signed and immediately thereafter many at this settlement crossed above Grandview to Indiana in 1805. Among them at this time were the Lamars, Rays, and Daniel Grass. A little later, the Powells, Emmicks, Grisbys, Carters, Hammonds, Samuel Howell, Mason Jones Howell, Mason Jones, Henry Jones, Rev. John McCoy, Noah Gordon, Thomas Turnham, and last but not least, James Gentry. All of these settlers had located claims before Thomas Lincoln came. Some were living on these claims and others planned to follow soon.

Among the early settlers in Hammond township, according to Goodspeed's History, published in 1885, were: Ezekiel Ray, Uriah Lamar, Benj. Lamar, Sam Lamar, James Hammond, Samuel Hammond, Allen Murphey, Kelton Murray, James Murray, James Kellams, Ezekiel Powell, John Richardson, Elijah Lamar, Elias Wright, David Casebier, David Hornbeck, Nicholas Emmick, Stephen Howard, William Kelley, Sr., William Kelley, Jr., Joseph Nelson, Jonathan Beard, Robert Barber, James Beard, William Springston, William Rood,

Littleton Powell, James Powell, William Lamar, David Turnham, Peter Lahew, William Shrode, Thomas Morton, William Black, Taylor Basye, Jonathan Prosser, and others. (Any person knowing of additional names of pioneers coming in before 1816, will please so inform the editor.)

The importance of this Blackford settlement has never been stated and I feel that such an important settlement should be given more publicity in your Grandview Monitor so that any one who may have some data on it will turn it in for our historical work.

The Daviess county, Kentucky, histories give considerable data and I have much of that in my notes, so you can rest assured that all these statements I make are based on facts recorded in printed histories. Hon. McCreary has written a seventy-page article (typed) on William Smithers (Smothers) and tells of the Blackford creek settlement and also relates a fine story how William Smithers, to save his dogs, dispatched a huge bear with his tomahawk on Blackford creek where a small stream emptied into it. This stream is known today as Bear creek. James Gentry at that time (1802) was living near this point and was hunting in company with Smithers. It was at this time that Smithers found his brother in the settlement courting the sister of Nattie Bell. His brother, James, married Miss Bell in 1805.

Daniel Grass also lived here and later often used this trail to Hardinsburg to transact business with his foster-father and financial backer, Col. W. R. Hynes, who founded Elizabethtown, Ky.

There is an abundance of data to reveal the importance of this Kentucky-Indiana Trail by way of the mouth of Little Sandy, near Grandview, to Gentryville, passing west of Newtonville about a mile or two. This trail also forked and passed about a mile north of Newtonville running to Troy.

At Grandview, a trail went directly west to a point west of the Gentryville and Rockport Trail. This point was called Knob City, and here is where Daniel Grass had his first store—the first store in Spencer county, although previous to this, Daniel Grass carried ample supplies to care for his neighbors, while he lived at Grandview, his first home. He was a neighbor of the Rays and his cabin stood within calling distance of the Grandview block house.

Daniel Grass, the Rays, Hammonds and Lamars came about 1805. The Kelleys and Murpheys also likely came at the same time.

That trail west of Grandview was greatly used. It connected with Rockport and on this trail Morton built his water mill. James Gentry, W. R. Hynes and Daniel Grass entered much land along this trail where it crossed into Ohio township and reached Knob City. It appears that Daniel Grass

in 1817 had hoped and planned to have the court house located at Knob City and as near as I can figure it out, Rockport was the compromise location.

It was about this time (1817) that Daniel Grass had his store there at Knob City and the first court proceedings took place there before Rockport was named the county seat.

Dr. Jolly, of Richland, in the Rockport papers about a year ago, stated that near Silverdale, old "Uncle Billy Statler" was born in the first Spencer county court house. This court house of Dr. Jolly's statement is the same building in which Daniel Grass had his store, near Knob City. Billy Statler's mother and Mrs. Daniel Grass were sisters, and when Daniel Grass moved his store to Rockport in 1818, after Rockport became the county seat, George Statler moved from back of Owensboro, Ky., and occupied this cabin where "Uncle Billy" was born.

This same cabin is also an historic spot on account of the fact that General Joseph E. Lane clerked for a time at Knob City for Daniel Grass. In history, "Men of Mark," in Evansville Library, Lane clerked near Rockport for Daniel Grass. So Spencer county can feel proud that young Lane not only clerked here but made many friends among the pioneers. Lane understood the pioneer life and was a first-rate story teller, and this friendship for the General comes to life in 1849 when many of these Spencer county pioneers joined his command in the Mexican War.

Thomas Lincoln could have met and traded jokes with General Lane in 1817 at the Daniel Grass store at Knob City, as his home was nearer the Grass' store at that time than it was to the town of Troy.

James Gentry, while living on Blackford creek, from about 1800 to 1816, raised hogs and often had as many as 2,000 pigs. He shipped the dressed pork to New Orleans and to Cincinnati, and his accumulated wealth was invested later in Spencer county land. Gentry always had a supply of boats on hand. He was building them continually to carry his produce to market and, as he lived near the mouth of Blackford, he helped many a pioneer to cross the Ohio river to Indiana in his dinghey boats.

I have given you some extremely important lights of early Spencer county history. Some things that "have never been sent to the mill." I am sure Hammond township readers of The Monitor will be glad to get this news. Grandview was making good history from 1805 to 1830 and, properly compiled, it would make interesting reading not only to your community but to tourists as well.

With best wishes, sincerely yours,
George H. Honig.

Grandview Monitor, 6-7-1928

GLIMPSES FROM THE PAST

Port Blackford and Indian Trails.

Grandview Herald Dec 6, 1928

(George H. Honig, Evansville.)

In 1780 a man by the name of Blackford built his log cabin on a creek which later was called Blackford creek and its location was near the Kentucky trail known as a warrior Indian trail, running from Owensboro to Hardinsburg, Ky. This trail crossed Blackford creek at a point almost due southeast of Grandview, Ind., at a distance of about five miles. This point on Blackford creek is also almost due west of Hardinsburg, Ky. It was almost a direct line from Hardinsburg to Grandview and naturally a short one for settlers to come to points in Indiana within a radius of fifteen to twenty miles of Grandview. Hundreds of pioneers followed this trail and settled in Huff, Hammond, Ohio, Grass, Carter and Jackson townships. In fact, about nine-tenths of these pioneers from 1800 to 1820 or 1830 came that way.

Blackford creek emptied into the Ohio river opposite the mouth of Big Sandy creek on the Indiana side. This settlement on Blackford creek dates back as early as 1800 and many families camped there waiting for the treaty to be signed between the Delaware Indians and the United States Government. In 1804 this treaty was signed and immediately thereafter many of this Blackford settlement crossed the river at or near Grandview to Indiana in 1805. Among them were the Lamars, Powells, Rays, Daniel Grass, and a little later the Emmicks, Grigsbys, Carters, Hammonds, Samuel Howell, Mason Jones, Howell, Mason Jones, Henry Jones, Rev. John McCoy, Noah Gordon, Thomas Turnham, and last but not least, James Gentry. All of these settlers had located claims before Thomas Lincoln came. Some were living on these claims and others planned to follow soon.

Among the land entries dating prior to 1817 we find in the History of Warrick, Spencer and Perry Counties, the following by townships:

Hammond township: Sam Lamar, 1811; Benjamin Lamar, 1814; Uriah Lamar, 1812; William Kelley, Sr. and Jr., 1816; James and Samuel Hammond, 1814; James Kellams, 1816; Kelton Murray, 1812; Jonathan Beard 1816; Ezekiel Ray, 1811 and 1814.

Grass township: James and Samuel Moore, 1814; Stephen Rogers, 1815.

Huff township: Joseph Wright, 1815; Ishmael Conner, 1813; William Taylor, 1815; Nicholas Emmick, 1815; Hugh Masterson, 1816; David Edwards, 1815; Samuel Conner, 1814; Walter Taylor, 1807; Francis Posey, 1811.

ment courting a sister of Nattie Bell. His brother, James, married Miss Bell in 1805.

Daniel Grass also lived here and later often used this trail to Hardinsburg to transact business with his foster father and financial backer, Col. W. R. Hynes, who founded Elizabethtown, Ky.

There is abundant evidence of data to reveal the importance of this Kentucky-Indiana trail by way of the mouth of Little Sandy and near the present site of Grandview, to Gentryville, passing west of Newtonville about three or four miles. This trail also forked and joined a trail to the east known as the Troy-Gentryville trail.

At Grandview, a trail went directly west to a point west of the Gentryville and Rockport trail. This point was called Knob City, and here Daniel Grass had his first store, the first store in Spencer county, although previous to this time Daniel Grass carried ample supplies to take care of his neighbors while he lived near Grandview, his first home. He was a neighbor of the Rays and his cabin stood within calling distance of the Grandview block house.

Daniel Grass, the Rays, Hammonds, Lamars and Powells came about 1805. The Kelleys and Murphys probably came about the same time.

That trail, west from Grandview, was greatly used as it connected with the Rockport trail and on this trail Morton built his water mill. James Gentry, W. R. Hynes and Grass entered much land along this trail where it crossed into Ohio township and reached Knob City. It appears that Daniel Grass in 1817 had hoped and planned to have the court house located at Knob City, and as near as I can figure it out, Rockport was the compromise location. It was about this time (1817) that Daniel Grass had his store there at Knob City and first court proceedings took place there before Rockport was named the county seat.

Dr. Jolly, of Richland, in the Rockport papers about a year ago, stated that near Silver Dale old Uncle Billy Statler was born in the first Spencer county court house. This court house of Dr. Jolly's statement, is the same building in which Daniel Grass had his store, near Knob City. Billy Statler's mother and Mrs. Daniel Grass were sisters and when Daniel Grass moved his store to Rockport in 1818, after Rockport became the county seat, George Statler moved from back of Owensboro, Ky., and occupied this cabin where Uncle Billy was born.

Clay township: Reuben Grigsby, Sr., 1816; Joseph Murray, 1817.

Ohio township: Amos Richardson, 1814; James Morton, 1814; John Davis, 1816; John Gentryman, 1815; W. W. Ogden, 1815; Samuel Snyder, 1816; Andrew Russell, 1816; David Casebeer, 1814; Henry Small, 1816; Daniel Grass, 1807 and 1808; Fulkira Fulkerson, 1814; William Wakefield, 1813; Willis Snyder, 1816; William Berry, 1809, 1810 and 1816; Gabriel Jones, 1815; Josiah Turpin, 1814; Joab Garrett, 1810; Thomas Clay, 1814; John W. Winton, 1808; Daniel Baldwin, 1811; John Cummins, 1809; James Martin, 1811; Edward Hayden, 1810 and 1816; Joshua Hobbs, 1810; Joseph E. Totten, 1808.

Luce township: John Holtzclaw, 1815; Ally Overall, 1816; Noah Howell, 1815; Nat. Ewing, 1815; David Luce, 1816; Benj. Meeks, 1816; Atha Meeks, 1811; Thomas Everton, 1816; Adam Young, 1814; John Young, 1814; John Meeks and Paten Thrailkill, 1811; Amos Cuthfield, 1814; William Spencer, 1815; Samuel Hazelhurst, 1814 and 1815; J. G. Totten, 1808.

To this list should be added a long list of names of pioneers who came in early but did not enter land until a much later date; some men were in the count as early as 1810 or 1812 who did not enter land until 1830 or even 1838.

The Daviess county, Kentucky, histories give considerable data and I have much of that in my notes; so you may rest assured that all these statements are based on facts recorded in printed histories. Hon. McCreary has written a seventy-page article (typed) on William Smithers (Smothers), and he tells of the Blackford creek settlement and also relates a fine story of how William Smithers to save his dogs dispatched a huge bear with his tomahawk on Blackford creek where a small stream empties into it. This stream is known to this day as Bear creek. James Gentry at that time (1802) was living near this point and was hunting in company with Smithers. It was at this time that Smithers found his brother in the settle-

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With best wishes; sincerely yours,
George H. Honig,
Evansville, Indiana.

Some people, who drive old Fords, would like to know how to lubricate so they will start easy on a cold day. Of course, one answer is to trade for a far better car.

The shortest days are almost here. Two weeks from Friday will give the short day.

Abraham Lincoln's First Night in Indiana Was Near Grandview.

Tradition, Supported by Documentary Evidence, Places Ferriage from Fort Blackford to Mouth of Little Sandy Creek. Thomas Lincoln's Finest Home Built in Spencer County.

Grandview, Indiana
2-19-1929



There was so very little recorded about the trip of the Lincoln family from their Kentucky to their Indiana home in the fall or early winter of 1816 that historians would gladly accept more details if the same can be relied upon, and the writer has been collecting some of these interesting details and has from time to time presented them for approval or disapproval through the columns of *The Monitor*. A year ago an article appeared which caused considerable attention and comment and more facts have been gathered to add to those formerly published.

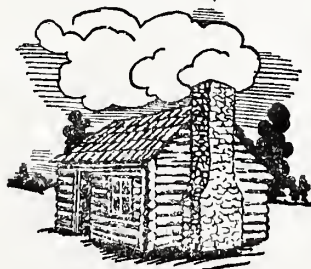
Brockett and Barrett, two Washington historians who wrote a history of the Lincoln family and more particularly of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and revised their works after the death of the Great President, state that the Lincoln family crossed the Ohio river "at or near the mouth of Anderson creek;" and Dennis Hanks told Herndon in 1866 that the family crossed the river to Posey's landing and that he (Hanks) came by way of Posey's farm in 1817; and again Hanks states that Mrs. Johnson (Lincoln) came with a wagon and four horses to the Ohio river; and this is about all the documentary evidence we have of the trips of the Lincoln families—for there were two families and two trips with two different wives and sets of children.

This documentary evidence has never been disputed nor doubted until very recently, and the writer has no evidence nor cause to doubt the above documentary evidence and only wishes to fill out some very interesting details. Indeed, to dispute the above evidence would be to bring upon the writer a multitude of disapproval from Spencer county descendants of early settlers; and the evidence collected not only agrees with the above statements but interlocks into one continuous story from beginning

to end. Hence, it is worthy of a careful consideration, at least.

It is a matter of record that Thomas Lincoln started to Indiana over the old Hardinsburg-Yellow Banks (Owensboro) trail; and from early settler descendants we learn this was an old Indian trail and has been traveled in part by Indians within the memory of the parents of some people now living. That this trail was a main thoroughfare of that day is a matter of record in *Rothert & Harrison's History of Ohio County, Ky.*, published in 1814, which shows the trail from Hardinsburg to Owensboro and a spur leading off at Bear Branch to Fort Blackford, one of the northern outposts of Kentucky. Indeed, it was the western most trail into what is now Spencer county for the reason that William Smothers claimed all the land of what is now Davies county, Kentucky, which is west of Blackford creek, and discouraged very plainly any attempts to settle or even travel over his hunting grounds (papers of George H. Honig). In 1807 Smothers found he could no longer hold this vast territory and settlers began to take possession; but the big thoroughfare was established by that time.

The settlement at Fort Blackford was started as early as 1780 by a man



A type of most of the homes built by Thomas Lincoln, father of Abe, in Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois.

named Blackford and the Hartford, Kentucky, settlement at about the same time, as William Smothers brought his wife and sister to Hartford in the spring of 1782 and his daughter, Jane, was born in the fort; and February 1, 1800, she became the wife of Daniel Grass, who afterwards settled in Spencer county, Ind., and became not only a prominent citizen of the county but one of the biggest

and ablest political leaders of the state of Indiana of his day.

During the few years prior to 1805 there appears to have been quite a gathering of hardy, adventurous pioneers collecting at and near Fort Blackford waiting and hoping that the fertile and attractive lands across the river in Indiana Territory would soon be open for settlement. Many of these settlers made trips into Indiana and were acquainted with the resources of the country cross the river before the land was available for entry. Among these were William Smothers, Daniel Grass, James Gentry, the Rays, Hammonds, Lamars, Powells, and others of the list of earliest settlers in Hamond township and Spencer county.

From these facts we learn that the trail to Fort Blackford had been in use for fully thirty years before Thomas Lincoln came over it in 1816. Furthermore it connected with at least three minor Indian trails on the Indiana side of the river and on these trails the first settlers made their homes.

While seeking evidence from descendants of early settlers near the site of Fort Blackford of the migration of Thomas Lincoln we were told "that the Moores, Deans and Edwardses all trace back to this Lincoln episode." These were among the early land owners of that section and their family tradition gives "that Thomas Lincoln and family (Nancy Hanks, Sarah and Abe), passed over this trail to Fort Blackford with a wagon drawn by oxen, a saddle horse and a cow." Some have the statement with more detail than others, but they all agree.

The parents of Rev. George H. Moore owned land on the trail leading back from Fort Blackford and

his wife died in March, 1928, at the age of 101 years, and two daughters of this family told the writer in August last year that they had always been told "that Abraham Lincoln, his wife, Nancy Hanks, Sarah and Abe, passed their home on their way to Indiana and their outfit consisted of a wagon, drawn by oxen, a cow and a saddle horse; and that Mrs. Lincoln was a fine, strong, and brave woman." "and the house."

The Thornberry family lived near the Moore plantation and the statement of Bega Dean, a slave girl given to a daughter upon the marriage of the latter will tell us the story with as much authenticity as any. She was ten years of age when the Civil War closed and was a "house girl" in the Dean and Thornberry homes, and her affidavit, made upon her 73d birthday, states that she has often heard her master and mistress speak of and comment upon the passing of the Lincoln family on the trail near their home, and that the outfit consisted of a wagon, drawn by oxen, a

THE BARKER FAMILY

Pioneer Neighbors of Thomas Lincoln
1818 to 1830.
Grandview Monitor 1-9-30

William Barker (b. April 29, 1794, d. Aug. 31, 1866) married Sally Crawford, a sister of Josiah Crawford, at Bardstown, Ky., Nov. 30, 1815, and came to what is now known as Spencer county, Ind., in the autumn of 1818 over the same route that Thomas Lincoln came in 1816 and evidently purchased land (e½ sec 6, t5s, r5w, 80a) lying southwest of the south half of the 160 acre tract entered by Thomas Lincoln in 1816 as deed is on record for sale of this Barker land to John Romine June 2, 1830 (deed record B, page 30, Spencer county records).

This land was entered by Samuel Howell September 6, 1817, but the deeds of transfer and also the county records of same have been lost. Land was not valuable in those days and timber was too cheap to consider and anyone who would clear a portion of another's land was a welcome neighbor. Hence, the first log cabin home of the Lincolns in this county was on the Howell entry, which evidently was purchased by the Barkers. The Barkers claim that their cabin and the Lincoln cabin were within a "stone's throw" of each other as late as 1821.

The family tradition is that Sally Barker was present at the bedside when Nancy Hanks Lincoln died; and that the Lincoln family was then living near the Barker home.

William Barker's daughter, Millie, married John W. Lamar, who became a captain during the Civil War, and Capt. Lamar's obituary (published in The Monitor Nov. 19, 1903) states that Lincoln visited him after he (Lincoln) "became nationally prominent." Evidently in 1853.

The Barkers burned a kiln of brick near the Lincoln home in 1821, and Thomas Lincoln returned from a trip to Kentucky while the kiln was burning; and this trip was made over the same Vincennes - Hardinsburg road the family came over in 1816. This brick kiln was less than 400 yards west of the present Old Pigeon church building and near the spring (which is walled with these brick to this day October 13, 1929).

D. S. Barker states that when coming to Grandview over this road (Grandview-Gentryville road) in 1869 with his father, A. Hamilton Barker, and that his father told him that the Grigsbys, Lincolns and Barkers came into the county over this road; and the statement is concurred in by a grandson of Reuben Grigsby, Jr., as what he had always heard.

D. S. Barker makes affidavit that Thomas Lincoln built three log cabins (or houses) while living in Spencer county; and the first one was on the site above mentioned. This statement is concurred in by other grandchildren of William Barker and also by descendants of some other early settlers. He also states that the second cabin was built on the knoll near the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and this is concurred in by other descendants of Lincoln neighbors.

The third cabin was near the site of the school building at Lincoln City, where the marker now stands, and there is so much evidence concerning this that nothing more need be added.

J. W. Ferguson, whose grandfather, John S. Lamar (b. 1794, d. Nov. 25, 1839) was a neighbor of the Lincoln family, says he has heard old citizens speak of the three log cabins as mentioned above.

Albert G. Dawson (b. 1858, began teaching school in 1879) states he has heard old settlers speak of the three log cabin homes as above.

Postmaster Dennis VanWinkle, of Lincoln City, also states he has heard descendants of early settlers speak of these three log cabins.

The Affidavit.

State of Indiana, Spencer county, ss:

I, Doctor S. Barker, a grandson of William Barker who came to Indiana in the autumn of 1818 when my father was an infant in arms, state that I have heard my father say that the family came into Indiana from the region of Bardstown, Ky., over the Hardinsburg, Ky., Vincennes trail and crossed the river from the mouth of Blackford creek, in Ken-

tucky, to the mouth of Little Sandy creek, in Indiana, and that this was the same route over which the family of Thomas Lincoln and his wife, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, came in 1816. That my grand-father purchased land southwest of that entered by Thomas Lincoln and that the Lincoln family were living in a house on the land my grand-father purchased and that Thomas Lincoln built this house and was living here as late as 1821 when the Barkers burned a kiln of brick between said house and the spring; that later than this Thomas Lincoln built a house on his own entry of land and not far from the present grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln. Still later he built another house, much larger, on the site of the marker near the brick school house site in Lincoln City. This is according to what my father told me and other statements of early settlers. I was born in 1854 and my father told me this during Civil War times.

Signed, DOCTOR S. BARKER.

This statement concerning the homes is also true from what I have heard from my family—the Murphys.

Signed by mark, L. D. JONES.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 26th day of October, 1929.

(Seal.) James H. Stuteville, N.P.
My commission expires Dec. 23, 1929.

ABE LINCOLN'S GIRL CHUM

Was Betsy Ray, of Sandy Creek Landing, Now Grandview.

Elizabeth Ray, more familiarly known as Betsy Ray, was born at Sandy Creek Landing, now Grandview, January 26, 1813, and first became acquainted with Abe Lincoln in her fourth summer, which was the summer following the moving of the Lincoln family into Indiana. Abel Ray, a son of Betsy's half-brother, William Ray, was about the same age as Betsy and these three children were often together in early childhood, according to the Ray family tradition.

Betsy had five half-brothers who were much older and two of them are listed as tax payers in 1815, and three of them were married before 1820, as evidenced by deed records.

There was quite a bond of friendship between the Ray and Lincoln families and they often visited, back and forth, in each other's homes. The Ray family tradition gives an account of President Lincoln offering Abel Ray a government position, but the latter declined.

It is said that Thomas Lincoln, the father of Abraham, helped Ezekiel Ray, the father of Betsy, fell a tree and trim out a pirogue in January, 1817, two months after the Lincoln family arrived in Indiana. He also helped Ezekiel Ray build flatboats on the bank of Big Sandy creek, as the Ray family have been produce merchants from earliest times in Indiana; and during these times the families would visit.

The raising of the Linn house in 1827 (which is still standing on the river road, west of Grandview) was quite a social affair and two days were used to complete the structure, with a big dance at night on the puncheon floor. Three big log heaps were burned to furnish the light for the occasion and Uncle Johnnie McLam played the fiddle. Abe and Betsy were partners at this dance.

Thomas Lincoln "carried up the corner" of the structure, as he was the best hand for the task known in the community of what is now Spencer county.

Abe and Betsy also met at the home of Ben Lamar (west of what is now Newtonville) for dances. Ben Lamar operated a horse mill also. His home was a two-story log structure and Masonic lodge was held in the upper story and on lodge nights there was always a dance on the lower floor. No documentary evidence of these lodge meetings has been found, but there is plenty of traditional evidence.

Betsy used to turn the grind stone for Abe to sharpen his ax, when visiting the home of Reuben Grigsby, Sr., which was not an infrequent occurrence. Mr. Grigsby often employed Abe and his father.

One time there was an unexpected meeting of Abe and Betsy at the Lamar mill. She had gone there with one of her (half) brothers and was surprised to find Abe there waiting his turn to grind some corn. Betsy wore her every-day clothes and was barefooted. Abe was also barefooted and a large hole in his trousers exposed a bare knee. They enjoyed quite a visit, though Betsy was continually trying to hide her bare feet under her skirt, and Abe persisted in endeavoring to keep his knee covered by placing his hand over the hole in his trousers.

In the late summer of 1828, Betsy was living with her mother on the Uriah Lamar (Betsy's uncle) farm, near what is now May school house; and Abe had hauled a load of hoop poles to Sandy Creek Landing with a load of oxen. On the return trip the oxen brushed a swarm of bees near Betsy's home and the oxen ran into a patch of big briars before Abe could stop them. Abe, as usual, was bare footed and could not comfortably get out. His shouts attracted Betsy's attention and she brought a hoe and threw to him. With this he cut a path out of the briars and also brought out the oxen.

The next spring Betsy was married to Reuben Grigsby, Jr., a son of one of the wealthiest men of what is now Clay township. Reuben's brother, Aaron was the husband of Sarah Lincoln, Abe's sister. The obituary of Betsy Ray Grigsby, published in The Monitor in 1901, states that Abe was present at her wedding and that Betsy liked to tell stories of her association with Abe, especially after he became president. Tradition gives mention that Abe visited her home in 1844 and again in 1853, and there is documentary proof of his being in the county during these years.

If any one who ever lived in Spencer county knew where the Lincoln family crossed the Ohio river; this lady, who was born on _____ of Grandview, began house _____ near _____ the place where she was born, and died in Grandview, surely did. Six of her grandsons are living and unite in the statement, by affidavit, that they have repeatedly heard her state that the crossing was to the mouth of Little Sandy creek, as The Monitor has repeatedly stated.

The Affidavit.

State of Indiana, Spencer county: ss

This Indenture Witnesseth, That C. T. Eghof, John E. Parker, Elmer Parker, G. B. Enghof, Jacob Grigsby and Wm. F. Grigsby, each and all being grandsons of Elizabeth Ray Grigsby, state and affirm that the historical sketch of the Ezekiel Ray family and the Reuben Grigsby, Jr., family prepared by Charles T. Baker is correct, according to the family history as repeated by our grandmother, familiarly known as Betsy Ray Grigsby; and that the account of the Lincoln family ferriage, from the mouth of Blackford to the mouth of Little Sandy creeks, as prepared and published by said Charles T. Baker, is true and authentic as we have heard many times from the lips of our grand-mother. The other Lincoln, Grigsby, Ray stories are also true, according to our family traditions.

C. T. Enghof,
John E. Parker,
Elmer Parker,
G. B. Enghof,
Jacob Grigsby,
W. F. Grigsby.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public, this 25th day of February, 1930.

James. H. Stuteville,
(Seal.) Notary Public.
My commission expires Jan. 13, 1934.

George H. Henig, sculptor and historian of Evansville, who has worked with the editor in collecting the early history of this section, has found a new source of documentary evidence of the Sandy Creek Landing-Selvin Vincennes Trail dating back to 1807. We may have more explicit statements in later edition.

Grandview, Ind., February 6, 1930.

March, 1930, is the 100th anniversary of the departure of the Lincoln family from Indiana and in the humble opinion of the editor it is time the citizens of this county made a real effort to contradict generally published statements concerning the life of the family while in Spencer county. As an example, most histories give their abode in this county as a three sided pole cabin. It is true the family lived in such a cabin the first winter; but so did many of the other early settlers. The next summer saw a log cabin erected about 14x16 feet and having a stick chimney on the west end. A few years later after the death of his wife, Nancy, he built another cabin of about the same size with a stick chimney on the east end; and still later Thomas Lincoln, the so-called shiftless man, built a room cabin with the chimney on the east end, pictures of which are in existence. Nearly if not every year, Thomas Lincoln helped to build flatboats at Sandy Creek Landing (now Grandview) for the Rays, Grigsbys and perhaps others. These statements are supported by very good tradition and the name of Thomas Lincoln, the father of the President Abraham Lincoln, should be protected in these respects at least. We contend that a man who would build three homes in fourteen years was not shiftless; he may have been a poor manager, but certainly he was industrious for his times and period. If there ever was an excuse for hiding these facts, it certainly is not now.

Grandview, Ind., February 23, 1930.

~~Grandview~~
ASKS FOR NEW DECLARATION

A local reader of The Monitor last week asked if the editor still believed that the Lincoln family was ferried across the Ohio river to the mouth of Little Sandy creek? He does. The fact is that no one ever heard of any dispute or contradiction of the statement of early Lincoln writers and historians that the Lincoln family crossed the Ohio river from Kentucky into what is now Spencer county until the Lincoln marker in Grandview was dedicated on February 12, 1928, and on that day notice was given that issue would be taken upon the place of ferriage. All writers and historians and local tradition agreed upon the subject that the Lincoln family came directly into Spencer county from Kentucky until after the date above mentioned. A recognized authority on "Lincolnia" wrote the editor in December, 1928, that "the economic question enters into" the issue and now that the National Government will be asked to build a road over the route taken by the Lincoln family there has been published much matter relative to the family crossing at other places than into Spencer county. If "the economic question enters" to the exclusion of all early historical statements, both documentary and traditional, then the route as contended for and supported by local tradition in Spencer county, Ind., and Hancock county, Ky., should by all means be chosen as the route would give Hancock county a road where it is much needed and the mileage is also in favor of said route.

LINCOLN MARKERS DEDICATED

Gentryville, the Scene of Ceremony
Commemorating Departure of
the Lincoln Family in
March, 1830.

Dr. B. C. Bean,, founder and president of the Abraham Lincoln Business Centenary, was the presiding officer at the dedicatory services Saturday at Gentryville at which two markers were formally placed on the site of the Jones store and the home of Dr. Gentry, where Lincoln stopped to sell goods, as the family started on the journey to Illinois.

Rev. Lewis Fleener, of Evansville, a former pastor of Old Pigeon Baptist Church, was one of the principal speakers. He called to mind that the Lincoln family were members of this church and Abe acted as janitor a portion of the time. He defended the character of Thomas Lincoln, father of Abe, from both the religious and industrial standpoint and cited church records to substantiate his statements.

George B. Bullock, owner of the site of the Jones' store, stated that only in Spencer county had he heard the Lincolns slightly spoken of and attributed the fact to jealousy.

Other speakers were Rev. Harvey J. Chastain, present pastor of Old Pigeon Church, George W. Brown, an inn-keeper at Gentryville, O. E. Jones of Evansville, a grandson of the old storekeeper, and others.

The ceremony was attended by about two hundred descendants of the early settlers and their neighbors, of the immediate vicinity. The speakers brought to light many facts that have remained almost unknown through the intervening years of the life of the Lincolns in this county.

3/4/30

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Betsy had five half-brothers who were much older and two of them are listed as tax payers in 1815, and three of them were married before 1830, as evidenced by deed records.

There was quite a bond of friendship between the Ray and Lincoln families and they often visited, back and forth, in each other's homes. The Ray family tradition gives an account of President Lincoln offering Abel Ray a government position, but the latter declined.

It is said that Thomas Lincoln, the father of Abraham, helped Ezekiel Ray, the father of Betsy, fell a tree and trim out a pirogue in January, 1817, two months after the Lincoln family arrived in Indiana. He also helped Ezekiel Ray build flatboats on the bank of Big Sandy creek, as the Ray family have been produce merchants from earliest times in Indiana; and during these times the families would visit.

The raising of the Linn house in 1827 (which is still standing on the river road, west of Grandview) was quite a social affair and two days were used to complete the structure, with a big dance at night on the puncheon floor. Three big log heaps were burned to furnish the light for the occasion and Uncle Johnnie McLam played the fiddle. Abe and Betsy were partners at this dance.

Thomas Lincoln "carried up the corner" of the structure, as he was the best hand for the task known in in the community of what is now Spencer county.

Abe and Betsy also met at the home of Ben Lamar (west of what is now Newtonville) for dances. Ben Lamar operated a horse mill also. His home was a two-story log structure and Masonic lodge was held in

the upper story and on lodge nights there was always a dance on the lower floor. No documentary evidence of these lodge meetings has been found, but there is plenty of traditional evidence.

Betsy used to turn the grind stone for Abe to sharpen his ax, when visiting the home of Reuben Grigsby, Sr., which was not an infrequent occurrence. Mr. Grigsby often employed Abe and his father.

One time there was an unexpected meeting of Abe and Betsy at the Lamar mill. She had gone there with one of her (half) brothers and was surprised to find Abe there waiting his turn to grind some corn. Betsy wore her every-day clothes and was barefooted. Abe was also barefooted and a large hole in his trousers exposed a bare knee. They enjoyed quite a visit, though Betsy was continually trying to hide her bare feet under her skirt, and Abe persisted in endeavoring to keep his knee covered by placing his hand over the hole in his trousers.

In the late summer of 1828, Betsy was living with her mother on the Uriah Lamar (Betsy's uncle) farm, near what is now May school house; and Abe had hauled a load of hoop poles to Sandy Creek Landing with a load of oxen. On the return trip the oxen brushed a swarm of bees near Betsy's home and the oxen ran into a patch of big briars before Abe could stop them. Abe, as usual, was bare footed and could not comfortably get out. His shouts attracted Betsy's attention and she brought a hoe and threw to him. With this he cut a path out of the briars and also brought out the oxen.

The next spring Betsy was married to Reuben Grigsby, Jr., a son of one of the wealthiest men of what is now Clay township. Reuben's brother, Aaron was the husband of Sarah Lincoln, Abe's sister. The obituary of Betsy Ray Grigsby, published in The Monitor in 1901, states that Abe was present at her wedding and that Betsy liked to tell stories of her association with Abe, especially after he became president. Tradition gives mention that Abe visited her home in 1844 and again in 1853, and there is documentary proof of his being in the county during these years.

If any one who ever lived in Spencer county knew where the Lincoln

family crossed the Ohio river; this lady, who was born on the site of Grandview, began housekeeping near the place where she was born, and died in Grandview, surely did. Six of her grandsons are living and unite in the statement, by affidavit, that they have repeatedly heard her state that the crossing was to the mouth of Little Sandy creek, as The Monitor has repeatedly stated.

The Affidavit.

State of Indiana, Spencer county: ss This Indenture Witnesseth, That C. T. Eghof, John E. Parker, Elmer Parker, G. B. Enghof, Jacob Grigsby and Wm. F. Grigsby, each and all being grandsons of Elizabeth Ray Grigsby, state and affirm that the historical sketch of the Ezekiel Ray family and the Reuben Grigsby, Jr., family prepared by Charles T. Baker is correct, according to the family history as repeated by our grandmother, familiarly known as Betsy Ray Grigsby; and that the account of the Lincoln family ferriage, from the mouth of Blackford to the mouth of Little Sandy creeks, as prepared and published by said Charles T. Baker, is true and authentic as we have heard many times from the lips of our grand-mother. The other Lincoln, Grigsby, Ray stories are also true, according to our family traditions.

C. T. Enghof,
John E. Parker,
Elmer Parker,
G. B. Enghof,
Jacob Grigsby,
W. F. Grigsby.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public, this 25th day of February, 1930.

James. H. Stuteville,

(Seal.)

Notary Public.

My commission expires Jan. 13, 1934.

George H. Henig, sculptor and historian of Evansville, who has worked with the editor in collecting the early history of this section, has found a new source of documentary evidence of the Sandy Creek Landing-Selvin-Vincennes Trail dating back to 1807. We may have more explicit statements in later edition.

Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anderson.

THE OLD TRAIL EVIDENCE

Several days ago the editor received a letter doubting the existence of the trail and criticising the map as published in The Monitor of February 13, 1930. This map was drawn from surveyors' notes and other documentary evidence collected by Mr. George L. Ewing, sculptor and historian of Vincennes. We supposed there had been enough documentary evidence published to substantiate the existence of this trail from the mouth of the Sandy creek to there are two creeks and two this trail to Gentryville. Vincennes; but as some still doubt, we repeat and add to the evidence heretofore published, as follows:

The Ezekiel Ray family were the first permanent settlers near the mouth of Sandy creek and, according to Goodspeed's History of Warren, Perry and Spencer Counties and the obituary of Betsy Ray Grigsby published in The Monitor of April 3, 1901, the family located here in 1808. In the same year tradition claims that the Murphy and Kelley families also settled within a mile of the Ray home, and documentary evidence (Goodspeed) states the Lamar-Powell families came during the same year.

In the spring of 1807, Daniel Grass, who is known to have been in Kentucky opposite Spencer county in the earlier days, entered land at or near Rockport and in August, 1808, was made a Justice of the Peace. This appointment as Justice of the Peace means the presence of a number of squatters in the territory. Tradition gives the residence of Daniel Grass at this time to be north of the present Silverdale, in Ohio township.

In 1808, John Wilkinson entered land in what is now Ohio township.

In March, 1811, Samuel Lamar entered land west of what is now Newleville,

Ezekiel Ray entered land west of what is now Grandview, then Sandy Creek Landing, in October, 1811.

In March, 1812, Uriah Lamar and Melton Murray had their race to Vincennes (Goodspeed) in which Lamar was able to enter the land of his choice and Murray took second best. Tradition gives the race as over the Sandy Creek-Vincennes trail.

According to Goodspeed's history, John Richardson landed at the present site of Grandview, with others, in 1817 and journeyed to Lincoln City to pick land for entry, and Amos Richardson (likely his brother) en-

tered land in what is now Clay township, in May, 1817.

Tradition gives that the Reuben Grigsby, Sr., family traveled overland from near Bardstown, Ky., in 1814, were ferried by the Muphys and passed over this Sandy Creek-Gentryville-Vincennes trail and settled south of Old Pigeon Church, making their land entry in January, 1816.

Young Lamar evidently came into the county about the same time as Uriah and Sam Lamar, and entered land in what is now Clay township in December, 1817.

According to the history of the William Barker family, published in July, 1923, the Barkers, Grigsbys and Crawford's came originally from Virginia into Kentucky, and tradition claims that the family of William Barker arrived from Bardstown, Ky., in the late summer of 1818, were ferried across the Ohio river by the Murphys in their wood boat, and traveled over this trail and bought land from Samuel Howell, or settled and their home to the Lincoln home. This land is near Old Pigeon Church and was entered in September, 1817.

In December, 1816, Thomas Lincoln and family traveled over this trail and were ferried by the Murphys in their wood boat.

Mr. A. C. Dawson reports that his grand-father, Christopher Burkheart, with his two brothers, Joshua and Daniel, and their families, came over this trail from Bardstown, Ky., in 1839 or 1840, crossed the Ohio river at Sandy Creek Landing and then separated: Joshua and Daniel going to Clay township and Christopher going into Ohio township for permanent settlement. Josh Burkheart was one of the leading men in the organization and founding of Little Pigeon Baptist Church.

Grass, Rays, Lamars, Richadsons, Grigsby, Barker and many others entered Indiana at the Sandy Creek Landing because it was the crossing point of a well known trail from a similar trail in Kentucky.

The Rays built a block house near the Sandy Creek Landing (some claim

it was built before the Rays came) as a refuge and protection against the Indians. The Ray family consisted of six grown men and were quite a garrison of themselves, and the ever present danger of Indian attack was not removed until after the death of Set-te-tah in May, 1811.

According to such an eminent authority as George R. Wilson, now of Indianapolis and who has the original surveyor's notes of this section, the early settlers followed the trails and squatted and later entered land near good water.

Herewith we have given documentary and traditional evidence of the existence of this trail, which has long been known to many of our early settler descendants as the "Lincoln Trail," because the Lincoln family passed over it in December, 1816.

EVANSVILLE IND COURIER
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1930.

WOULD PUBLICIZE 'LINCOLN COUNTRY' THROUGHOUT LAND

Grandview Lincoln Trail Group and Boonville Press Club Hold Joint Meeting

GRANDVIEW, Oct. 19.—(Special)—
Suggestion that Southern Indiana be
publicized as The Lincoln Country
was made here today when new in-
formation concerning the life and
movement of the Lincoln family in
this section was given at
meeting of the Boonville
and the Grandview Lin

The Boonville Lin
who have
interest
color

...her grave
...of incidents rel-
...Lincoln's departure.

OTHERS SPEAK

Others who spoke were T. C. Basye,
Rockport; Joseph E. Wiebe, custodian
of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Park;
McKim Copeland of Madison, super-
intendent of landscaping at the park;
Judge Union W. Youngblood of Boon-
ville, Joseph Forsythe of Grandview
and Attorney John A. Posey of Rock-
port.

Numerous historical sites here were
visited by the delegation and talks
made by those familiar with the
scenes visited. A basket dinner was
held at noon at the Grandview High
school gymnasium, where the meet-
ing was held.

Are You Interested in Local History?

Do you know what took place during the pioneer days of this section? Do you know why so many located here in 1809? Do you know where the Lincoln family entered Spencer county? Do you know who had the first mill?

Sandy Creek Landing, later Grandview has a wonderfully interesting early history. This and other interesting facts, tradition and comment of happenings along the Sandy Creek-Selvin trail will be given in The Monitor in the form of a serial story beginning about January 1, 1931. It will contain heretofore unpublished facts about the Lincoln family. The story will be written by the editor, who has been gathering this material during the past five years.

Order The Monitor

sent to your address at once so you will not miss any part of the story. If you know of a Lincoln admirer, show a copy of this announcement to him as he will greatly desire the story. The Monitor is \$1.25 per year.

Grandview Monitor Dec. 4 1930

SANDY CREEK LANDING GREETES THE LINCOLNS

Copyright, 1931, C. T. Baker.

Journal of the Indiana Historical Society 7-9-31

Chapter XIII. — Military Activity In and About Sandy Creek.

It is seemingly impossible at this day to review very far into the Indian occupation of this section, but from the History of Daviess County, Ky., and local tradition we can state with positiveness that Sandy Creek Landing was the crossing point of the Ohio river for an old Indian trail leading from Oklahoma into Virginia. The local tradition is backed by the evidence of Indian villages within four miles of this crossing point and camp sites, and the burial grounds on the east bank of Big Sandy creek, and also the same kind of evidence in Kentucky along Blackford creek.

From the story of Joel Hardin in Cckrum's Pioneer History of Indiana, one gets an idea of the Indian depredations in Kentucky during the early settlement and particularly in 1792. This story relates the fight at Horey Springs (southern Pike county) over the prisoners. From the John Gibson letters in the same volume, we gather that there were four main trails leading north from the Ohio river between the Wabash and Blue rivers. These trails were later crossed by four roads leading east from the Red Banks trail between the Ohio and White rivers; and always the local trails in the now Spencer county are mentioned as the Yellow Banks trail. This likely was because this trail had two branches within the county that crossed the Ohio river at two different places: the Yellow Banks trail at Rockport, and the Hartford-Vincennes trail at Grandview. These two branches are thought to have united into the one trail at or near Gentryville.

From references in the "Executive Journal, Indiana Territory," it is proven that the passing of pioneers and others over these trails called for the establishment of ferries on these trails as early as 1803. (Joseph Decker, Jr., on White river, Feb. 2, 1803; and August 10, 1803. Isaac Decker was granted license; June 6, 1807, William Hawkins licensed to ferry on west fork of White river; Feb. 16, 1804, Daniel Haselwood was licensed to conduct a ferry on White river; July 11, 1807, Ebenezer Seydemon was licensed to keep a ferry on the Patoka river; May 23, 1807, John Mills was licensed to ferry in sec. 25, t8, r11, on Patoka river.) These ferries were surely not on the same trail or pioneer road. There were licenses granted during the same period for ferries across the Ohio river from Salt river to the

indicate travel and the influx of pioneers.

There were troublous times during the weeks and months of the year of 1807 and the letters of John Gibson, secretary to Governor William Henry Harrison, while giving instructions for the patrol of these early roads and protection of settlers, give more definite information concerning this Yellow Banks trail, which appears to have become an important artery of communication with the post at Vincennes. White Oak Springs (now Petersburg) was made a provision and supply depot; the stockade at Selvin was enlarged and strengthened; and the block houses at the mouth of Sandy creek (now Grandview) and "two miles east of the trail" (now Newtonville), were built for the protection of settlers and travelers. True, these block houses are not definitely located by Gibson, but Goodspeed's History of Warrick, Spencer and Perry Counties does so locate, and local tradition also agrees with the documentary.

The part local men took in patrolling these roads is now lost to history, but there is documentary evidence in the "History of Indiana Militia" and the legislative minutes and other histories for the following:

William Kelley, Sr., came from Kentucky into Clark county and later to Sandy Creek Landing, and was a Revolutionary War soldier. He was captain of a militia company in Randolph county in March, 1803; a lieutenant in Clark county in March, 1809; and captain in the Second Regiment, Clark county, in August, 1810 or 1811. It is possible there were two William Kelleys but the reference in the military history is to Goodspeed's Spencer county, and the descendants know of but one William Kelley with a military record.

Thomas Carter, an early settler of this county and for whom Carter township is named, was a lieutenant of a rifle company, 7th Ind. Regt., in August, 1811; and a captain in the 11th Regt. in August, 1821. John Carter was an ensign in the Harrison county militia in 1811; and ensign in the 5th Regt. in 1815; and in the 9th Regt. in 1814.

Martin Stuteville, who settled in what was later Ohio township, was a lieutenant in the 10th Regt. in December, 1814, under Captain William Reese.

John Sweeney (likely later one of the teachers of school attended by Abe Lincoln) was a lieutenant of Harrison county militia in May, 1816.

Thomas Gordon and Jeremiah Murphy were ensigns in the 3rd Regt. in December, 1811, under Captain William Spencer.

Ratlif Boone was a lieutenant in the 4th Regt. in August, 1812.

Daniel Grass was a lieutenant in

the 4th Regt. in November, 1812. James Hammins (Hammond) was a lieutenant in the 10th Regt. in January, 1814, and John Luce and John Morton were ensigns. Hugh McGary was colonel at this time and Ratlif Boone captain.

William Ray was a captain in the 10th Regt. in 1814, according to local tradition, and the documentary states the records are incomplete. His brother, Thomas, was a lieutenant in the 8th Regt. in June, 1815.

Bailey Anderson, Jr., was captain in the Knox county militia in August 1808, and he lived south the present Roonville; Enoch Berry was lieutenant in same company, and lived near Rockport; Hiram Main was ensign and lived in Grass township.

Enoch Berry was a lieutenant again in June, 1810.

William Barker and Isaac Fleenor were lieutenants in the 12th Regt., 2nd Battalion in May, 1810; but it not likely that this William Barker was the one who moved from Bardstown, Ky., to the Lincoln City settlement in 1818.

William Kelley was captain; Philip Boyer lieutenant, and Daniel Stark ensign, in 2nd Regt. in August, 1810. John Morgan was captain of a company of state militia in Perry county in October, 1817.

Mason Jones Howell, whose home was in Clay township, was colonel of all Indiana militia in 1820.

(We are indebted to George H. Honig, Evansville sculptor and historian, for several of the above references.—Author.)

The above records are quite terse but they do imply quite strongly that this old Hartford-Vincennes trail and its environs were protected between 1807 and 1817, but not without some real trails. While the Kelleys were building their log cabin in 1809 on

the hill just north of town the Indians forcibly discouraged the erection and during the encounter two members of the Murphy family, who came to their assistance, were slain. One girl of the Murphy family was carried away by the Indians but it is not known whether it was before or after this attack on the Kelleys. The block house on the river was the protection for the ferrying site, but on numerous occasions the women and children hurriedly crossed the river into Kentucky while the men remained on guard to repel an Indian attack.

Much more could be of interest if the writer would inject some fiction into the narrative, but he is holding to the documentary and traditional facts as gathered.

Future additions to this historical story will likely have as subject matter some individual family.

LINCOLN HISTORICAL PAGEANT

Grandview News, 4-19-1921
The Spencer County Historical Society is again making plans for the biennial historical Lincoln pageant to be given on July 4th next, and the citizens of Grandview are asked to assist in this big celebration.

The scene put on by Grandview citizens in 1928, "Lincoln goes to the Hammond Tannery," was pronounced one of the best episodes of the pageant by officers of the State Historical Society. Beside this scene many young ladies of Grandview are asked to take parts in the prelude. Miss Frances Forsythe will act as Grandview chairman of the pageant group from Grandview.

Two years ago, Miss Ida M. Tarbell, noted historian, in writing of the pageant in The New York Tribune, said, "Probably no more interesting monument will ever be raised to Abraham Lincoln than the one that the Spencer County Historical Society is undertaking—a permanent biennial pageant on the 4th of July, celebrating the life of the boy Lincoln in their county."

The pageant will be given at the old brick landing in Rockside Park, Rockport, where Lincoln left for New Orleans on Allen Gentry's flatboat in 1828. There will be two performances, one at 4 p.m. and the next at 8 p.m. of the same day.

Help boost for your county and town in this big celebration.

SANDY CREEK MILITIA

number 6-4-31

Muster roll of Captain William Kelley's company in the Second Regiment of Indiana militia called into the service of the United States by his Excellency John Gibson, acting Governor of Indiana Territory, from the 16th day of January, 1813, to the 2d day of March, 1813, inclusive.

Captain William Kelley.

Lieutenant Samuel Work.

Sergeant John Boyer.

Sergeant John Ritchey.

Corporal David Fouts.

Corporal Henry Huckleberry.

Corporal John Hood.

Corporal William Carr.

Noah Anderson

Joseph Reese

John Hooker

John Copple

John Williams

William Anderson

Frederick Fisher

Daniel Huff

Stephen Henley

Stephen Warren

Samuel Devoar

Nathaniel Mooney

Thomas Ryan

Robert L. Plaskett

Samuel Stark

Samuel Stewart

Frederick Boyer

Daniel McNew

Archibald Hamilton

Jonathan Thomas

James Cooper

William Lockhart

Moses Stark

Henry Boyer

John Crum

John Coons

Abel Finley

John Finley

William Flennehan

George Preston

John Parks

Jonathan D. Stark

John Watson

Samuel L. Stilwell

Stephen Harmon

Landy Hurst

—We are indebted to Miss Esther U. McNitt, of the Indiana State Library, for the above copy.—Editor.

SANDY CREEK LANDING GREET THE LINCOLNS

Note.—Twice have the statements of the writer been publicly challenged and doubts suggested concerning the early trails passing through or converging from Sandy Creek Landing. The writer has but limited time to devote to this historical research work and therefore hesitated to make reply until such time as could be given for thoroughness. In reviewing notes and memorandums the following has been secured in more detail than formerly, and no reason is apparent for longer withholding publicity.—C. T. Baker.

Question answered

Copyright, 1931, C. T. Baker.

1931-1931

Chapter XII.—A Continuation of Early Trails and Ferriage Site.

From the mouth of Blackford creek, Kentucky, and directly opposite in Indiana (Sandy creek), is said to be an old Indian trail to Vincennes, and much traveled by the early explorers, hunters, prospectors and settlers passing through to points west and northwest, even beyond Vincennes.

In tradition, it is said that an aunt (and party) of Jo. C. Pell's father (Jo. C. Pell, president of the Lewisport, Ky., bank) came down the river to the present town of Troy about 1800 and intended to go overland to Vincennes, but were told it would be dangerous to make further travel by river and therefore left the boat at Troy and crossed the river and passed through the Lewis Bottoms to the mouth of Blackford creek, where they again crossed the river and proceeded to Vincennes over this Indian trail. Their descendants lived for years about Pana, Illinois.

Blackford creek was originally called Muddy creek (Taylor's History of Ohio County, Ky., page 6) but was changed in honor of a man named Blackford, who built a log cabin on the creek about five miles back from the Ohio river about 1780. This cabin was undoubtedly on the old Indian trail later known as the Bardstown, Elizabethtown, Shawnetown trail—a long trail crossing northern Kentucky from east to west.

The first known settlers at Sandy Creek Landing came over this trail in "wagons" from the vicinity of Bardstown, Ky., in the year 1805, according to tradition, and in September crossed the Ohio river from the mouth of Blackford creek on a raft made of split poplar logs. There were at least four families in the party and, after camping in various places in what is now Spencer county, Indiana, were moved by the Territorial Militia to the mouth of Sandy creek and all local tradition

agrees that this reference (Cockrum's Pioneer History of Indiana, p. 214) could mean none other than the Ezekiel Ray family. Spencer court records prove that Ezekiel Ray had five grown sons and two were married. The Territorial Militia acted under direct orders from John Gibson, secretary to Governor William Henry Harrison, and the block house mentioned by Goodspeed (page 254) was the result of this order.

There were undoubtedly at least two Indian trails leading to the Ohio river from the stockade or fort at Selvin: the Yellow Banks (Cockrum, pages 174, 205, 206, etc.) and the Vincennes-Hartford trails. Cockrum mentions two trails and Daviess County History more specifically describes the Vincennes and Hartford trail.

About a year after the Ray family was located in the blockhouse, the Murphy and Kelley families came into the neighborhood and the Murphy family soon established a ferry from the mouth of Blackford creek to the mouth of Sandy creek (or between the mouths of Big and Little Sandy creeks. The Murphy family was a large family and tradition gives the item of eighteen children; and one of the Kelley boys married one of the Murphy girls (William Kelley, Jr.'s., first wife).

'The Lincoln family crossed the Ohio river at the place where the Vincennes-Hartford trail crossed to the mouth of Blackford creek.—Stephen Burns, deceased, by his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Elizabeth Burns.

George R. Wilson's "Early Trails and Surveys" states that the surveyors did not note the location of the Yellow Banks (the Vincennes-Hartford trail) within the Freeman lines but "those who worked south of the south Freeman line made a fairly good record of it almost to Gentryville." Wilson was formerly a surveyor of Dubois county and lived at Jasper, and the inference is that no record was made of this trail south

of Gentryville, and he took the word of others that it crossed the Ohio river at Rockport.

Prof. Roetger, formerly of Jasper, lecturing to the Spencer County Teachers' Institute, at Rockport in 1928 (I think) stated that early Jasper merchants hauled most of their goods from Grandview because it was the place most easily reached by the roads of that day.

The Old Crossing Point at Grandview.

The author of "History of Daviess County, Ky.," published by the Interstate Publishing Company, Chicago, 1883, appears to have had a more intimate knowledge of this trail for he states, page 599, under heading of The Oldest Road:

'The oldest road in Daviess county extended north of Blackford creek, on the Ohio, to Hartford, Ohio county. It was an Indian trail from Vincennes, Ind., to Hartford, crossing the Ohio river at the mouth of Blackford creek."

It is not unwise, then, to assume that the Yellow Banks trail, as described by Wilson, crossed the Ohio river from the mouth of Sandy creek to the mouth of Blackford creek, Ky., for the author notes that it is the oldest road and was formerly an Indian trail from Vincennes to Hartford. This trail was protected by Fort Blackford, in Kentucky, the block house at the mouth of Sandy creek and the fort or stockade at Selvin, in northeastern Warriek county.

The same volume (History of Daviess County) contains the following notation on page 849-50:

"In 1867 the boundaries of this (Yelvington) precinct were thus described by the County Court: Beginning at the intersection of the Jo Wright and Hawesville road, thence with the Jo. Wright road to the Ohio river, thence up the Ohio river to the mouth of Blackford, thence up Blackford to the White Oak ford, thence to the Barker road at D. Winkler, Jr.'s., excluding him, thence with the Barker road to intersection of new road and Barker road at corner of precincts Nos. 2 and 4, thence a direct line to the beginning.

"The precinct and village of Yelvington derive their name from Mr. Yelverton Overly, one of the earliest settlers of the town, who had a blacksmith shop where the village of Yelvington now stands. Yelvington is a corruption of Yelverton.

"The village is situated at the crossing of the Old State Road leading from Elizabethtown to Shawneetown, and on the old road from Hartford, striking the Ohio river at the mouth of Blackford creek. These were originally old Indian trails, and the roads, when laid out, were among the first in the country."

We are indebted to Mr. George H. Henier, historian and sculptor of Evansville, for the citation; and Mrs. Sue R. McCulloch, librarian at Carnegie Free Public Library, Owensboro, for copy of above.

Here, then, is documentary evidence supporting tradition as to the crossing point of the Ohio river for the Vincennes-Hartford trail; the oldest roads of the section traversed by the Lincoln caravan in the autumn of 1816, agreeing with the citations of George R. Wilson (Holland's Life of Lincoln, pp 25, 26; Herndon & Weik, Vol. 1, p 17; Barrett's, p 22; Nicolay, p 7; Cockrum, p 474) and Parrett, p 38; the tradition as gathered from the kinfolks of Sarah Lincoln Grigsby: grand-children of the

three Spencer county sweethearts of Abraham Lincoln, namely: Betsy Woods, Betsy Ray and Polly Richardson Powell; and descendants of other old Lincoln neighbors, friends, etc.; and it all agrees that the crossing point into Indiana was "at or near the mouth of Anderson creek," in the language of the period, or more definitely from the mouth of Blackford creek on the old Hartford and Vincennes road. "Lincoln shortened his mileage by both land and water. A pioneer road had previously been cut out for a large part of the way," says Wilson.

WHERE NEW LINCOLN HISTORY IS BEING WRITTEN

Monitor - Grandview - 8-7-1937
New Lincoln history is being written almost daily as research is made into the wealth of Lincoln fact and lore that abounds in and adjacent to Spencer county. Within easy driving distance of Evansville there lie numerous points of interest where a visitor may drink deep of the atmosphere that abounds of the boyhood of the Emancipator.

The center, perhaps, of all the points of interest is Nancy Hanks park wherein is the grave of the mother of Lincoln. There lie her remains, even as the boy Lincoln and a group of sympathizing friends and relatives laid them. Surrounding the grave, now well kept and well marked, is a wide expanse of state parkland upon which it is proposed to raise a great stone memorial.

It was while he lived in this country that Lincoln felt within him the forces of the great emotions which were to guide him later as President of the United States.

Near at hand is Rockport, the place from which Lincoln embarked upon a flatboat trip that took him to New Orleans where he witnessed the buying and selling of slaves. Grandview, the point at which the Lincoln family touched Indiana soil as they ferried across the river from Kentucky to the new home site, is close by. Jonesboro and Gentryville are in the vicinity.

Lincoln City and the interesting surroundings may be reached over one of two available routes. Leaving Evansville over State Highway No. 66, the way winds along the Ohio river for a distance of ten miles to Newburg, next to Rockport.

From Rockport State Roads Nos. 45 and 62 will take the visitor through to Gentryville, a town named after the Gentry family which was one of the best known in the neighborhood in Lincoln's day and was very close to the Lincoln family from days back on the trail from Kentucky. It is then but a short two-mile drive to Lincoln City and Nancy Hanks park. Not far away is the site of the Old Pigeon church, the record of which contains frequent references to Thomas Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's father, and gives an intimate insight into the religious beliefs of the Lincoln family.

On the return trip one may pass through Gentryville and from there follow State Road 62 through Boonville back to Evansville.

—From "Evansville, the Vacation City of the Tri-State," published by the Evansville Chamber of Commerce.

The MONITOR, Grandview, Indiana, August 4, 1932.

THE LINCOLN FAMILY
IN HOOSIER LAND

Abraham Lincoln came with his parents to Indiana in December, 1816, when he lacked two months of being seven years of age. The crossing of the Ohio river was on the old pioneer highway known as the Hartford and Vincennes trail, and landed at what was early known as Sandy Creek Landing in the then Perry county, two years later was Spencer county. He lived in this county until March, 1830, about one month after he reached his legal majority, and therefore the formative years of his life were spent here, where he mingled with many common folks, school teachers, lawyers, preachers, civic and military officers. These early associations and the books he read undoubtedly had a direct influence upon his after life. Spencer county people are still quite proud of the moulding influences of his life obtained from these early pioneers.

BANK HAS PART OF LINCOLN FARM

The Grandview Bank traded some property in Lamar for Block 19 in Lincoln City and finds it has acquired title to a part of the original Thomas Lincoln farm for which Lincoln obtained a patent from President John Quincy Adams June 6, 1827. On the patent the name Lincoln is spelled "Linkern." Block 19 now contains twelve lots.

February 20, 1830, Thomas Lincoln deeded this land to Charles Grigsby for \$125, and William Stark was the Justice of the Peace who acknowledged the instrument. The next transfer put the property in the name of Edley Brown for a consideration of \$200; and James Sans, J.P., acknowledged the deed December 8, 1835. Later it passed into the hands of James Saily and then to Joseph Gentry, January 11, 1838, for \$240.

Thirty-three years later we find that James Gentry sold a part of the farm and some adjacent property to Henry Lewis and others, of Cincinnati, for \$10,000, and the deed was signed November 28, 1871.

This block 19 lies west of the railway track today and the Bank officials are proud of the ownership. Like many other features of the life of the Lincolns in Indiana, it seems that folks living at the present site of Grandview become very intimately associated in social and business relations. Officials of the bank did not know of the Lincoln association until the deal was consummated and the abstract received.

mon. 10. 1. 1871

TRI-STATE FEDERATION HAS BIG MEETING SUNDAY

Grandview Monitor 4-7-33
The Tri-State Federation of Men's Bible Classes held the largest meeting in its history Sunday afternoon at the Grandview gym. Not only was there a contest for delegate honors but the public announcement of an open meeting brought many visitors. Delegates to the number of 301 were counted and the total attendance, according to careful estimate, was fully 600. Seating capacity was provided for 750 but it was not all taken.

President Herbert Webb, of Cannelton, was in active charge, and Secretary Benton McDonald, of Huntingburg, kept careful note of the activities. Thomas Jennings, past president, watched carefully that no item of business or welfare was omitted, even providing a megaphone to boost the chairman's voice.

The program opened promptly at 2 o'clock with the singing of the class song, "Onward Christian Soldiers," followed by the invocation by Rev. A. R. Daes, pastor of the M. E. Church. This was followed by a song by male voices, composed of Dr. H. Q. White, J. N. Woodward, C. C. Parker, Charles Billingsley, C. T. Baker and W. H. Forsythe.

Oscar Basedow, of Tell City, then gave Lincoln's favorite poem, "Oh, Why Should the Spirit of Mortal Be Proud;" followed by the collection of the offering, which was dedicated by Rev. E. H. Courter, of the Lutheran Church. Two congregational songs followed; and Rev. A. H. Proctor, of Cannelton, was song leader, and Mrs. Pyle, of Cannelton, was pianist. Then followed class business in which our reporter gleaned there were 301 delegates present, and the next meeting place will be at Santa Claus in July.

Dr. Louis A. Warren, a director of the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation, was introduced by the president, after the audience had sung two songs, and he gave a detailed report of the religious beliefs of Abe Lincoln's ancestors and how almost every denomination had tried to claim him; and that the reason he never united with any church, though he gave abundant evidence of a spiritual life was much the ideal of the church of his parents, which does and did not believe in Sunday schools nor membership of children. It was a masterly effort upon a very interesting subject. Dr. Warren talked seventy-five minutes and most of his hearers thought it was only half of that period.

THE JONES' STORES OF THE LINCOLN NEIGHBORHOOD

Dedicated to the Boonville Press Club

Any person who digs carefully into the past and tries to pick up an accurate history of an hundred years ago often runs up a serious problem in an endeavor to get tradition and documentary evidence to agree upon one item in question. This has been the case with the following article about the two Jones' stores of the Lincoln neighborhood and in the Lincoln period of residence.

It appears from documentary evidence at two sets of Jones' families, perhaps three, came into the northern part of Spencer county quite early. One set settled in what is now Grass and Luce townships and entered land about 1815 (Goodspeed's history of Warren, Spencer and Perry Counties, page 269) and their names are William, Gabriel, Thompson, Mason and Henry; and are said to be sons of John Jones, a Revolutionary War soldier, who came into Indiana Territory about 1812 from Virginia through Jefferson county, Ky. (George H. Honig). Another set of three brothers came from Pennsylvania through North Carolina and Kentucky (Honig) and settled in the present Carter township and their father might be a brother of the above Mason Jones (Honig and Miss Lydia Jones), and their names are Thomas, John C. and Lawrence (Goodspeed 272). From Taylor's History of Ohio County, Ky., we learn that William Jones married Leby Brown October 10, 1804; Gabriel Jones married Cynthia Bellance May 3, 1809; John Jones married Elizabeth Woods August 10, 1810; and Lawrence Jones married Mary Linkler October 10, 1810. Both of these families have been quite prominent in early Spencer county history. Another Jones—William—came into the county about 1827 (Hobson, 34) and settled west of the present Gentryville and the place was called Jonesboro. Some of the Jones descendants claim there is kinship between them and William Jones, and others dispute it; so we leave the question undecided. Later, in 1838, another set of Joneses came into Hammond township from Ohio, being descendants of Gadius Jones, of Wales, and a Revolutionary War soldier.

John C. Jones entered land in the section just west of the one containing the Lincoln entry and in the same year. A 160-acre tract between the two was entered by David Casebier also in the same year of 1817. Goodspeed gives (page 272) that Zachariah Jones put a small stock of goods in the "up stairs" of this John Jones cabin and came from Rome certain days of the week to sell these goods. Now, according to tradition, this was John Riggs instead of Ricks, and Riggs entered land on which the town of Rome is now situated in 1813 (see

came to the Jones' cabin three days a week to tend store. It is apparently impossible at this late day to learn the exact date of the installation of this stock, but we are assured it was within the period of Lincoln residence. Riggs continued to sell goods in this cabin after it was occupied by "Blue Grass Bill" Jones, a son of John, and tradition gives the location of this cabin as west and a little south of the last Lincoln cabin. John Jones made six entries of land in the present Carter township before 1820 and the town of Dale is partly located upon one of these entries and his son, William K., and James Hammond, from Sandy Creek Landing, were interested in the first survey of the town plat (Goodspeed, page 359).

This William K. Jones who interested James Hammond in laying out the foundations for the town of Dale married a sister of Peter Lahue, according to L. D. Jones, his grandson, and therefore was likely a frequent visitor at Sandy Creek Landing, the present Grandview. Another son of John Jones was Lester; and both William and Lester are said to have enlisted in the Civil War, and Lester is said to have been killed at the battle of Antietam. William survived the War but we have been unable to get his military record from the War Department as there were only fifty-three William Joneses enlisting from Indiana without middle initial and we have been unable to obtain his company and regiment.

As to the stock of goods carried by Riggs, we have no documentary evidence but, according to tradition, it consisted of dry goods, boots and a few groceries, likely much the same of Taylor Basye carried at New Hope (Goodspeed 263). Uriah Lamar carried a stock of goods in the "up stairs" of his cabin and people now living can remember the building. We are told there were other similar stores "up stairs" in the county.

"Blue Grass Bill," so called because he sowed a part of his farm in blue grass, is said by some of his descendants, to be a cousin of the William Jones who came from Vincennes; afterward was a colonel in the Civil War and we will use the designation. Colonel Bill was born at Vincennes January 5, 1800 and came to this county in 1827 (Beveridge 97, note from Hobson 34) and is said to have clerked a short time for John Romine before opening a store of his own at Jonesboro, west of the present Gentryville. Col. Bill married Rachel Elizabeth Jones, likely at Vincennes.

Col. Bill's store was a popular place in those days and at times there were quite a number of visitors with those who came to trade. Abe Lincoln was often one of the number and took part in the discussions when opportunity offered; and he delighted to read whatever papers Jones received. Jones and Abe became quite friends and Abe sometimes "tended store" in the absence of Jones. Several items concerning this store and Abe's

transactions there have been brought down in tradition, namely: Asking for credit for a pair of boots; the call at this store as he returned from Boonville where he heard the brilliant lawyer, John A. Brackenridge, and the purchase of a small stock to peddle on the journey to Illinois.

According to tradition, Abe was hauling cord wood to Gentryville in the fall of 1828 or 1829 and selling it at that place. Frosty nights had arrived and often the earth became frozen and thawed during the day. Abe's footwear was thin and poorly protected his feet and he asked Jones to let him have a pair of boots on credit. This request Jones refused; and nothing was thought about it for many years. After Abe's election to the presidency, it is said that Col. Bill wrote him a letter asking for a position in the White House or at least in Washington. To this Abe wrote back something like this: "Dear Friend Jones: There are not enough boots here for both of us; and I am needed here for the present." In some manner the neighbors learned of the letter and there was much comment upon Abe's retributive answer to him.

About this time in his life, Abe Lincoln had aspirations to become a lawyer some day and, as chance offered, went to Rockport and Boonville to hear the lawyers plead. It is regrettable that recognition of Abe's ambitions were not made a matter of record in those days and one finds only faint evidence of claims of this character. However, it has been passed down that Abe went to Boonville one day in the fall of 1829 to listen to the pleadings of Lawyer Brackenridge in a murder trial. (It is claimed that records of this trial cannot be found in the Warwick records, but grandsons of Blue Grass Bill claim they have heard the title of the case.) It is even said that Abe tried to compliment Lawyer Brackenridge upon his speech, but the lawyer paid but scant attention to him until they met in Washington years later (Johnston, in Beveridge note, page 91). Those who knew Abe were sure of a real entertainment when he came home and were anxious to hear his version, and anticipated his first visit to the store.

Arriving at the Jones' store, Abe found quite a little company of customers and visitors and to them he told the story of the testimony of the last witnesses and the pleading of the lawyer and what he thought would be the verdict. Among this company we imagine would be William David, the blacksmith, Abe's particular friend (Beveridge 86), James Gentry, George Wire, James Wood, Ezekiel Ray (son of William Ray of Sandy Creek Landing), Bill McCoy, Mrs. "Blue Grass Bill" Jones and her niece, Betsy Lahue of Sandy Creek Landing, Jane Hackney and others; and to these he gave a vivid account of what he saw and heard at this trial.

earned during Lincoln's campaign for the presidency was the purchase of "\$16 worth of steel pins" and other articles when the family left for Illinois. These he sold enroute and doubled his money on them. During the campaign some Illinois paper published that Abe never paid Jones for the items; and W. Jones wrote a letter under date of September 5, 1860, denying the accusation (Lincoln Lore of August 15, 1932). The same authority gives the amount of the purchase as \$35.00.

When the Civil War came Col. Bill endeavored to enlist a company of infantry but did not succeed in obtaining the required number and it was consolidated with the 53 Indiana Infantry (Fortune's Warrick County and Its Prominent People, 53 to 64), in which he entered the service as a lieutenant-colonel and was later promoted to colonel. He was killed near Atlanta July 22, 1864, and the story of his death follows: (Col. Schreeder to Honig) "Col. Jones was wounded by a bullet and his aides took him off his horse but Col. Jones insisted that he remain in battle; so they helped him from his horse to a nearby tree, against which he sat and bled. In a very short time a cannon ball took off the top of his head and the body remained against the tree." Col. Jones' first wife was buried at Grandview about 1857 and about 1884 J. C. Finch bought the lot on which she was buried with the obligation of moving the body to Gentryville; and two men now living saw the body exhumed. Their children were William (Captain Bill of the Civil War), Charles, Henry, Scott and James. Henry married a Grandview lady but the venture was unpleasant.

A William Jones, who is said to be unrelated to Col. Bill, much later conducted a store in a building that is still standing in Gentryville though it is now moved from its former location.

The children of "Blue Grass Bill" Jones were, according to his grandson, Thomson who married Mary Brannon, Dow who married Mary Murphy of Sandy Creek Landing, John who married Rebecca Kelley of Sandy Creek Landing, Marion whose second wife was Mary Lindsey of Butler county, Ky., Elizabeth who married T. Brocner, and Laura who married David Smith.

The Boonville Press Club expects to present a play written about this Jones' store incident at its July session, at the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Park.—C. T. Baker, author of "Sandy Creek Landing Greets the Lincolns," "The Landing of the Lincolns," and other Lincolnia.

Spencer County

Lincolnia

Jan 18 1934

A Correction. In our article last week about the Lincoln Farm we let an error creep through unnoticed, and here is the corrected paragraph which you can paste over the one in the article if you are preserving it.

Court records. (Vol. 2, page 419) also prove that Thomas Lincoln owned twenty acres in section 31 and adjoining his home farm and entry on the northwest corner. This land was entered by David Casebier May 9, 1817, and, according to tradition, was sold to John Jones, who sold to Thomas Lincoln the twenty acres. This is described as the north quarter of the east half of the southeast quarter of section 31, township 4 south, range 5 west. The records do not give the passing from Casebier to Jones nor from Jones to Lincoln, as the court house and these records were burned in April, 1833.

This John Jones was born February 23, 1788, and married Elizabeth Woods, a sister of William Woods, August 14, 1810, in Daviess county, Ky., and came into the Indiana Territory about 1815. His oldest daughter, Nancy (born September 22, 1811), became the second wife of David Turnham March 11, 1835. John Jones was the father of ten children. His father was likely William Jones, as the history of Ohio County, Ky., mentions him as bondsman for three of the children.

Our plans for this column have undergone considerable change since the receipt of advises from the copyright department; but we think our readers will gain from the change. Another installment will appear next week and the writer will give his version of some of the Spencer County Lincolnia.

Francis Scott Key's original manuscript of "The Star Spangled Banner" was recently sold for \$24,000

Dr. Louis A. Warren, in his Lincoln Lore, calls attention to the fact that this is the year of the 125th anniversary of Lincoln's birth and that it would be fitting for newspapers to publish facts concerning Lincoln and their community. Dr. Warren likes evidence to be documentary, but inasmuch as there were no newspapers near here in those days, we can give little but tradition. This tradition, however, is quite thoroughly planted hereabouts and we may renew on a portion of it.

Spencer County Lincolnia

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Installment Number One.

THE DISPOSAL OF THE LINCOLN FARM

There has been much published to prove that Thomas Lincoln was a shiftless man, but the writer thinks the title does not apply to the Kentucky nor to the Indiana period of his life. There are various documentary statistics and some tradition that can be accepted to prove that he was about as industrious and prosperous as the average man of his period and community, especially if the readers will give as much charity and liberality for the side of industry and accumulation as other writers have received in trying to prove his shiftlessness.

According to records found by Judge O. M. Mather, of Hodgenville, Ky., Thomas Lincoln lacked much of being a shiftless young man, in fact, he spent freely for himself and also helped his friends, though his purchases in land were quite discouraging for any man. When he decided to make the change from Kentucky and try his fortunes in the Indiana Territory he apparently was able to salvage very little of the fruit of his toil and savings; but it is documentary evidence that he brought 400 gallons of whisky (worth \$100 at the time) and left the whisky with Francis Posey, about a mile below the mouth of Anderson creek and sold his boat to the Thompsons, who operated a ferry above the mouth of this same creek. This whisky was brought into Indiana upon his first known trip into the Territory and is often called his prospecting trip. No record has been found to give evidence of how he sold the whisky, nor when or how he used the cash from the sale of this whisky.

It is past all dispute that he obtained a labor contract with Reuben Grigsby and returned to Kentucky and brought his family into the Indiana Territory about the first of December, 1816, and remained in the territory and state until March, 1830. During this period of about fourteen years we have very good reason to believe that Thomas Lincoln accumulated and invested in lands until in January, 1830, he owned 180 acres of farm land.

Like many other features of Lincoln history there has been a lack of diligence and care in days past to get authoritative and reliable information and today there is quite a tangle concerning the size, acreage and disposal of the Lincoln farm.

In the works of Albert J. Beveridge (page 95, foot note), is found clear evidence of a tangle in the statement that Thomas Lincoln succeeded in getting a patent (June 6, 1827) for half of the 160 acres he had entered October 15, 1817, "which he now sold to James Gentry." The Spencer county records show that Thomas Lincoln sold this eighty acres to Charlie Grigsby for \$125 and the deed was signed February 20, 1830 (Deed Records, Vol. 2, page 63). This was for the west half of the southwest quarter of section 32, township 4 south, range 5 west in Carter township. The other half of the 160 acres entered by Thomas Lincoln—the east half of the southwest quarter of section 32, 14w, r5s—was released by him April 10, 1827, and James Gentry entered this portion of the Lincoln farm January 3, 1838 (Spencer County Tract Book, page 63) nearly eight years after the Lincolns had gone to Illinois.

This is surely undisputable evidence from documentary for a portion of the tangle regarding the Lincoln farm. Grigsby bought the home portion and Gentry entered the released portion. Gentry came into possession of the home portion of the Lincoln farm January 11, 1838 but it had passed through the hands of Charlie Grigsby, Edley Brown and James Sally before he obtained the possession of it.

Court records (Vol. 2, page 419) also prove that Thomas Lincoln owned twenty acres in section 31 and adjoining his home farm and entry on the northwest corner. This land was entered by David Casebier May 9, 1817, and, according to tradition, was sold to William Jones (not Col. Bill) who sold to Lincoln the twenty acres. This is described as the north quarter of the east half of the southeast quarter of section 31, township 4 south, range 5 west. The records do not give the passing from Casebier to Jones nor from Jones to Lin-

coln, as the court house and these records were burned in April, 1833.

The Lost "Eighty," "Southeast of the Park."

In the story, "Sandy Creek Landing Greets the Lincolns," chapter 7 (published in this paper February 19, 1931) was an account of the purchase of forty acres of land by Thomas Lincoln from John Carter with \$100 obtained from the sale of the horse, Bulger, which the Lincolns had raised from a colt.

In the Boonville Standard of May 15, 1915, is the statement of Jacob Oskins, who had worked for John Romine and had been told by Romine that he (Romine) had followed the Lincolns the second day out of their journey to Illinois and traded a horse for the eighty acres Lincoln had left. The statement further states that Romine had obtained the horse from James Gentry as the horse was suitable to Lincoln and Romine did not

have such suitable horse. Romine had a notary with him and the deal was made at the Edmund Phillips farm and the deed was signed for "eighty acres of land southeast of the park."

Over near Vincennes is a family who claim their ancestors traded horses with Thomas Lincoln as he was passing on his journey to Illinois.

Now, this is all tradition and it is so widely separated that there is no chance for collaboration, yet it matches and fits into a harmonious whole without conflict in any way.

But now what of the documentary evidence?

According to the Spencer County Tract Book, John Carter entered the northwest quarter of section 5, township 5 south, range 5 west, in the present Clay township, November 3, 1817, and volume 25, page 204, of the deed records states that James Gentry, as assignee of John Carter, was "given a registration upon full payment for the east half of the northwest quarter of section 5, t5s, r5w, January 29, 1823;" but this "patent" was not recorded until June 14, 1864. We naturally wonder what happened to John Carter that he assigned to James Gentry his interest in this land that enabled Gentry to make the final payment. Was it the result of the panic of 1817-8-9, or other factors that caused his financial embarrassment? This land later passed to Romine, but surely it could not be the "forty" or "eighty" that Carter sold to Lincoln even though it lies east of the park (grave of Mrs. Lincoln).

According to the same records, John Carter entered the northeast quarter of the same section October 3, 1818, which lies to the east of the other quarter section just mentioned, and Carter evidently made the final payment on this, perhaps with the money received from Lincoln; and for the passing of the title to Romine we find the following documentary record:

If the Spencer county records had not been burned in April, 1833, we very likely would find the deed from Carter to Lincoln and from Lincoln

to Romine; and we have no knowledge for the failure of these instruments to appear; but in volume 8, page 183, is found that James Gentry and Eliza, his wife, as assignee of John Carter, conveyed to John Romine the east half of the northwest quarter and the west half of the northeast quarter of section 5, t5s, r5w, each containing 64 and 34-100 acres, and the deed was signed in the presence of L. D. Padget and John Hesson before William Stark, a notary public, dated April 15, 1843, and recorded November 2, 1843.

The county records having been burned ten years previously and the deed from Lincoln to Romine perhaps having been lost, the deed from Gentry to Romine would cover the prev-

ious transactions and give a perfect abstract title for the future; and we have good reason to suppose that this is the "eighty acres southeast of the park" in the face of the evidence that both Padget and Hesson were witnesses of the deed before a notary public, as they undoubtedly knew of the deeds between Carter and Lincoln and Lincoln and Romine.

This is the documentary for the transactions given in tradition and covers them completely without error for correct abstracts on down to the present day—and it also covers the burned records of the fire of April, 1833. It will be noticed that one traditional statement gives "forty" and the other "eighty" acres whereas the deeds specify 64 and 34-100 acres, but this inaccuracy does no violence to the story as the land is "southeast of the park." The title remained in the Romine family for more than forty years.

Romine bought considerable land in that neighborhood during the fifteen years following the departure of the Lincoln family and one of the other parcels was the land on which was the cabin occupied by the Lincolns when Mrs. Lincoln died. This land was entered by Samuel Howell and the next public record shows that William Barker sold it to John Romine June 2, 1830, and recorded in volume 2, page 27, the consideration being \$325 for eighty acres; but the passing from Howell to Barker is not found.

James Gentry accompanied the Lincolns to Pigeon creek when they moved to Illinois and has held them in high esteem since that day and may have sighted Romine to the deal with Lincoln to help the Lincolns dispose of the land and the deed was written while waiting for Abe to return with the ox that had escaped and was found in the barnlot of David Turnham.

The land herein described is the only land "southeast of the park" entered by Carter that passed to the Romines.

The Lincoln Farm.

20 acre tract	Lincoln home 80 w $\frac{1}{2}$ sw $\frac{1}{4}$ s32	Lincoln 80 released	
	Grave of Mrs. Lincoln	e $\frac{1}{2}$, nw $\frac{1}{4}$ t5s, r5w	w $\frac{1}{2}$ ne $\frac{1}{4}$ s5 t5s, r5w

Thomas Lincoln, the honest man,
Lived fourteen years in Hoosier land,
Labored and strove with simple plan
To make a home with neighbors
grand.

Little he brought into the state
And how it grew no one can tell—
Evidence beams that he can rate
A prosperous man of the dell.

Call him shiftless? Regard not facts?
The truth stands out so plain and
bare

That some must change—the name
re-acts—

And set at rest that ugly scare.

True greatness comes with those who
toil,

Live among men and prove to all
That honesty and virtue foil
The acts of those who seek our fall.

So Lincoln lived — good neighbor
there—

Among others both kind and good;
And kindness shows — deeds make
bare

Intents of hearts through clothing
rude.

No shiftless man could thus possess
In fourteen years with dealings fair
The holdings shown without duress
And leave the state with honor
square.

BASYE DRUG STORE BROUGHT FIRST LAMP TO ROCKPORT

There recently appeared in the Evansville Courier the following article, which we are glad to reproduce as Mr. Basye's grand-father, Taylor Basye, was a citizen of this community way back in pioneer days.

"T. C. Basye, owner and operator of the Basye drug store at Rockport, says he is 71 years old and has been in the drug business all his life.

"I was born 71 years ago and the second day of my life I started my career as a clerk in the Basye drug store, he says.

"The Basye drug store at that time was owned by Basye's father, John, whose father, Taylor Basye, had started a general store at New Hope in 1819. New Hope is one and a half miles from Grandview and seven miles from Rockport.

"Reared in store environments at New Hope, it was only natural that John Basye was interested in the work. So he came to Rockport where he bought a drug store from Dr. Oliver Morgan, one of Spencer county's wealthiest men. The same year his son, T. C., was born.

"Soon after purchasing the store Basye went to Louisville on the river packet, the only mode of travel outside of horseback or driving, and there he purchased a coal oil lamp, paying five dollars for it. He also bought five gallons of coal oil at one dollar per gallon.

"Returning home with the luxury, he sent word to as many persons as he could reach that he would light his lamp every Saturday night. When Dr. Morgan, from whom John had bought the store, saw the lamp he inquired its price, saying in reply: 'Well, John, if you are going to spend your money that way, you'll never be able to pay them notes.' John had given Dr. Morgan notes in the purchase of the store.

"But John's purchase was justified for the lamp proved a business-getter. People came from miles around to see the lighted lamp. Residents of Gentryville, twenty-two miles north of Rockport, changed their custom of coming to the 'county seat' early Saturday mornings in their 'jolt wagons' and ox teams. Instead they came in the afternoons so they could see the lamp in Basye's store. Then they would return home in the darkness over the rough country road that was little more than a trail.

"Tylor C. Basye, named for his grand-father, became a partner with his father when still young and the name of the Basye drug store was changed to that of 'John Basye and Son.' Since the death of John Basye the store has again become the Basye drug store.

"When 'Opening Day' was observed by Rockport merchants recently the origin of the custom was an interesting topic of conversation. T. C.

Basye and John Graham are credited with originating the idea.

"Twenty-five years ago the John Basye and Son drug store was one of the leading drug stores in 'the pocket' of Indiana. The Wessler and Graham book and stationery store was a leading store of its kind. Young Basye and Graham were close friends and decided to hold an 'opening' to display their Christmas goods. They advertised and gave souvenirs to those who came. Since that time 'Opening Day' always has been a gala day in Rockport and all the merchants join in.

"John Graham now is in Spokane, Wash., where he operates a large stationery store. Basye is hale and hearty and takes an active interest in all city and county civic activities. He is president of the Spencer County Historical Society and past president of the Indiana Pharmaceutical Association. In the days of the old county fair he was president of the Rockport Fair Association for fifteen years."

The Basye store has enjoyed an enviable reputation through three generations of always being able to meet its accounts as they become due and most of the time taking the discounts on all bills. It has always been a good store to trade with and it is claimed the Lincolns often traded at the New Hope store. The elder Taylor Basye often entered land for prospective settlers and one of the prized possessions of the grandson is a letter giving information of such a trip made by his grand-mother, who rode a horse to Vincennes to make such an entry.

After Taylor Basye left New Hope he took part in selling some lots in a Kentucky town above Bardstown, and later located in Troy, Perry county.

When this paper published a copy of the 1820 Census Report for Spencer county in October, 1933, it was a surprise not to find the name of Taylor Basye with the others; but in January, 1921, A. A. Lamar, a grand-

son of Uriah Lamar, brought into this office some old papers and from them this copy was made:

"December 10, 1820. Uriah Lamar, Esq. I want you to pay Taylor Basye five dollars and this shall be good in our settlement on your docket, this 10th day of December, 1820. James Wright."

Uriah Lamar was a justice of the peace in this settlement at that time, and the order is conclusive proof that Taylor Basye was here and his name should have appeared in the census report of "December, 1820."

Other documentary evidence of his presence is taken from Goodspeed's History of Warrick, Spencer and Perry Counties, published in 1885:

Page 263. "Taylor Basye had a small store of calico, sugar, tea, coffee, ammunition, saddles, leather, harness, etc., about a mile and a half northeast of Grandview, from about 1821 to 1830. He took in exchange for his wares, furs, skins, feathers, produce, etc., which he at stated seasons shipped off to market, and then laid in a stock of new goods—probably \$300 worth. Thomas Morton also kept an early store, much the same as that of Mr. Basye. James D. Hammond kept a stock of goods for several years in the twenties. He conducted a tannery for many years."

Page 272. "At an election held in the house of Jonathan Greathouse in Carter township, August, 1819, the following men cast their ballots: Taylor Basye, Andrew Crawford, John Woodall, Moses Randle, John Sumner, Zachariah Wright, William Laforce, Jonathan Greathouse, Joseph Wright, Lafayette Parker, George Angel, Demp. Sumner, Josiah Swolliver, William Wright, Sr., John Ellis, Jesse Hoskins, John Masterson, John Angel, Chesley Wheeler, Ezekiel Powell, James Masterson, William Baird, Samuel Lamar, Jr., Samuel Powell, Thomas Lincoln, father of President Lincoln, George Hoffman, William Woolard, Young Lamar, John Ewing, Thomas Carter and A. Richardson."

Handwritten:
James Wright
Jan 17, 1934

Spencer County

Lincolnia

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Installment Number Two.

The Lincolns Land in Indiana.

Notwithstanding the contention of other places and communities as the site of the Lincoln ferriage of the Ohio river when they came into the Indiana Territory in December, 1816, the writer still claims the "caravan" came over the Bardstown, Ky., and Shawneetown, Ill., Trail to the point where it crossed the Hartford, Ky., and Vincennes, Ind., Trail and then followed the latter trail to the Ohio river and landed at or very, very near the present site of Grandview. The Hartford and Vincennes Trail crossed the Ohio river from the mouth of Blackford creek in Kentucky (Collins' History of Ky.), and the mouth of this creek is directly opposite Grandview. Some writers contend the Lincolns landed at Troy, which is above the mouth of Anderson creek and was a small town at that time. The writer has evidence that the term "Troy" covered all the territory from the present site of Grandview to the present Tell City, in the statements of pioneers and has letters and newspaper clippings to prove the assertion.

The known documentary evidence for the site of the Lincoln ferriage of the Ohio river is found in the works of both Brockett and Barrett and is identical in both the first and revised editions; and we quote from Barrett's edition, published by Moore,

Wilstach, Keys & Co., Cincinnati, O., 1860, page 22:

"Arrived at the appointed landing place on the banks of the Ohio, we only remained to embark the little caravan upon a flatboat, and to cross the stream, now swelled to fair proportions by the autumn rains. Finally, after reaching the Indiana side, the adventurers landed at or near the mouth of Anderson creek," etc.

The "caravan," according to tradition and documentary evidence found by a friend (but misplaced) was composed of at least fifteen families, with a total of about one hundred souls. The statement also gives mention that the river was "now swelled by the autumn rains," and the crossing was made in a "flatboat."

The settlement here at that time was the Murphy family, who operated the ferry and woodyard and had flatboats, the Ray family in the "block-house" not far from the river bank, and several scattered families living between the river and (on) the first

hills. Nothing more definite by which to designate the place. This is still a good crossing point, even when the river is bank full, and there are no creeks or other streams to be considered in traveling over the trail.

The writer has collected the following evidence concerning the crossing from the mouth of Blackford creek:

IN KENTUCKY

Margaret Chrisler Moore, Lived 82 Years on Blackford Creek.

Margaret Chrisler Moore, b. Jan. 10, 1827, came to Emmick's Landing (Lewisport) in January, 1828, m. Rev. Geo. H. Moore March 31, 1846, lived on Blackford creek (opposite Sandy Creek Landing, now Grandview) 82 years, d. March 17, 1928; by her daughters, Mrs. R. F. Whit-

worth of Waitman, and Miss Maggie Moore of Thruston, told the writer in July, 1927, that the Lincolns came over the old trail, which crosses their farm, in 1816, and that Mrs. Lincoln was riding the saddle horse, and the family had an ox team, wagon and cow.

Thornsberry-Dean Slave, a "House Girl."

"Eoge Dean" (Mrs. Adah Payne), b. Sept. 17, 1855, living today, by affidavit, states her master and mistress often mentioned the passing of the Lincolns over the old trail and crossing the Ohio at the mouth of Blackford creek. The Thornsberry-Dean "plantation" adjoined the Moore plantation on Blackford creek.

Jo. C. Pell,

President Lewisport, Ky., Bank.

Jo. C. Pell tells the writer that his grand-father's sister came down the Ohio river to Troy about 1800 and crossed into Kentucky and came to the mouth of Blackford creek to get on the Vincennes Trail as the Indian menace was too hazzardous to attempt the trail from Troy to Vincennes. Pell's ancestors have lived in and near Lewisport from very early times and he states the Lincolns crossed from the mouth of Blackford. (I have one of the Pell family old account books dating back to 1840, and a Bates' account book dating to 1830, and names appear in both of same families. Bates lived near the mouth of Anderson.—Baker.)

Capt. Jeff. Sterrett, deceased, Editor and Publisher of the Hawesville Plaindealer.

C. B. Kyler, Evansville florist, born in Hawesville, has often heard Capt. Sterrett tell stories to the boys of 1890s and that the Lincolns crossed the river from the mouth of Blackford creek. Verbal.

Mrs. Edna Dunn Mastin.

Mrs. W. T. Mastin, deputy clerk of the U. S. District Court, Owensboro, Ky., by letter, states of reading documentary of "fifteen families coming with the Lincolns" and (verbal) that a possible kinsman by the name of Bristow was one of these families crossing the river at the mouth of Blackford creek.

IN INDIANA.

Edward Murphy and Brothers Ferried the Lincoln Caravan.

L. D. Jones, grand-son of Edward Murphy who helped ferry the Lincolns, by affidavit, states the Lincolns crossed from the mouth of Blackford creek to near the mouth of Little Sandy creek on the Indiana side. His mother was a daughter of Edward Murphy.

William Kelley Saw the Ferriage.

William Kelley, grand-son of the William Kelley, Jr., who saw the Lincolns ferried, by affidavit, states of hearing his father and grand-father tell of the Lincolns crossing the Ohio river on the Murphy wood-beat. Kelley entered land on this trail in 1816.

Alfred Lamar, Son of Uriah Lamar, Justice of the Peace in 1811.

M. R. Chartrand states that Alfred Lamar told him and Jerry Anderson (Lamar's son-in-law), in 1898, seven months before his death; that the Lincolns crossed the Ohio river to the mouth of Sandy creek. Alfred Lamar, b. Oct. 26, 1810, d. Feb. 3, 1899. His wife, Laura Mason, born near Elizabethtown, Ky., Oct. 27, 1811, died, Jan. 12, 1902 (Monitor of Jan. 16, 1902), was a sister of William Mason who entered land east of Sandy creek in 1830. Uriah Lamar entered land on Sandy creek in March, 1812.

William R. Thurman, Came in Here With Parents in 1818.

Mrs. Olive Thurman Mosby, grand-daughter of William R. Thurman, endorses the Lincoln crossing as given (verbal) and says "we have always heard in childhood that the Lincolns crossed here. Mr. Thurman was born in Culpepper, Va., and married Anna Shrode, of Sandy Creek Landing, see Goodspeed, page 510.

Woods-Hammond Families.

Samuel D. Hammond, b. Jan. 12, 1792, came to Sandy Creek Landing in 1811 (following his cousin James G. Hammond, who came in 1809 and died 1819), entered land in 1814 and 1817, married Elizabeth Woods (b. Nov. 7, 1809, d. Jan. 22, 1889), of the Lincoln neighborhood, and died Sept. 17, 1854, of pneumonia; by their grand-daughter (verbal), Mrs. William Hughes (b. July 24, 1858, d. April 16, 1932), states she has heard her grand-mother tell the story of the Lincoln ferriage as given in The Monitor. Also approved by John Mosby, a grand-son of Sam Hammond (verbal).

Miss Belle Crawford, Grand-daughter of Josiah Crawford.

Belle Crawford taught her history class, while teaching at Gerlach school in Grass township in 1884-85, that the Lincolns crossed the Ohio river at Grandview. Affidavit of William Jones, a pupil, second cousin of Capt. "Bill" Jones.

Capt. Charles S. Finch, Pension Attorney.

Capt. Charles S. Finch, b. April 9, 1818, came here in the early 1830s (Goodspeed, p. 500), by affidavits of J. W. Ferguson and J. T. Williams, that the Lincolns crossed the Ohio river near Grandview. Ferguson was a grand-son of John S. Lamar, and Finch told him this while he was securing pension papers for a relative.

Finch's office was in same building with Williams' barber shop and they often talked of Lincoln. Finch had a valuable collection of papers upon and about Lincoln that was destroyed by fire some years ago.

William Barker, Uncle of Sarah Lincoln Grigsby, Brother-in-law of Reuben Grigsby, Sr., and Josiah Crawford.

Doctor S. Barker, b. July 9, 1854, states that his grand-father came to Indiana with the Lincolns in 1816 and brought his family in early autumn of 1818 before the death of Mrs. Thomas Lincoln, and his third son was born in the same cabin in which Nancy Hanks Lincoln died (on Sam. Howell entry. Barker sold this land to John Romine June 2, 1830), by affidavit, states the Lincolns crossed the Ohio river at Sandy Creek Landing, later known as Grandview, as he has heard from the lips of his father and grand-father. William Barker married Sarah Crawford at Bardstown, Ky., Nov. 30, 1815, d. Aug. 31, 1866. Barker's sister, Nancy, was the wife of Reuben Grigsby; married at Bardstown, Ky., see Register No. 1.

Elizabeth Ray-Grigsby, Wife of Reuben Grigsby, Jr.

Elizabeth Ray, b. Jan. 26, 1813, d. March 28, 1901; m. Reuben Grigsby, Jr., April 16, 1829 (Monitor of April 3, 1901). daughter of Ezekiel Ray who made the first entry of land at Sandy Creek Landing in May, 1811; by affidavit of six grand-sons—Jackson and Jacob Grigsby, John and Elmer Parker, Bonnie and Charles Engelf—give the ferriage site as from the mouth of Blackford to the mouth of Sandy creek. Elizabeth Grigsby was the sister-in-law of Sarah Lincoln Grigsby.

Daniel Anderson, a Nephew of Recorder Joseph C. Richardson, who helped Goodspeed's Writers.

Daniel Anderson, b. March 3, 1849, d. Nov. 2, 1932, a great-grand-son of Rev. John Richardson, an early pastor of Pigeon Creek Baptist Church, home church of the Lincolns, by letter endorses The Monitor's story of the Lincoln ferriage. Mr. Anderson was a grand-son of Polly Richardson-Mason-Egnew, and is a former sheriff of this county.

Mrs. Ann Painter, Grand-daughter of Ben Lamar.

Mrs. C. E. Painter, daughter of Joel T. Lamar, a son of Benjamin, Joel b. in 1800, d. 1861, by letter says "I am sure the Lincolns crossed at this ferry." Her grand-father operated a horse mill, the buhrs for which were brought from Kentucky about 1814, and the Lincolns patronized this mill.

Allen Gentry, the Flatboatman.

R. W. Richards, formerly auditor of Spencer county, told the writer in the spring of 1932 that he has heard Allen Gentry state the Lincolns crossed the river at Grandview.

William Posey Meeks.

W. P. Meeks, veteran district school teacher of this township (born in 1869) told the writer in the presence of Joe E. Weibe, custodian of Lincoln Park, Jan. 15, 1933, that The Monitor's Lincoln ferriage story is correct. Mr. Meeks is a great-grand-son of Benj. Lamar, and a descendant

of Athe Meeks, who was killed by the Indian, Set-te-tah, in 1811. He has repeatedly endorsed the ferriage as given and his father was a local historian, but his notes were lost some years ago.

Taylor Basye, the New Hope Merchant.

Taylor C. Basye, grand-son of the Taylor Basye of the New Hope community of the Lincoln period, told the Kentucky Lincoln Memorial Highway Commissioners when they visited his store in Rockport April 26, 1931, that "the Lincolns crossed the Ohio river at Grandview."

George Honig, Evansville, a Sculptor and Historian.

George H. Honig, formerly of Rockport, married a descendant of the McCoys who came to the county in 1815, and he has collected local Lincoln data for years, author of the map published in February, 1930; endorses the Grandview ferriage site with numerous letters.

Stephen Burns.

Stephen Burns, b. March 4, 1824, died at age of nearly 88, m. 1846, and William, first son born in 1847. William's wife, Elizabeth Burns, b. 1855, (verbal) states she has often heard her father-in-law state the Lincolns crossed the river on the old Hartford-Vincennes Trail, now Grandview.

Nephews of Calvin Rasor,

Son of James Rasor.

George W. Richey (b. 1871) and James Rasor (b. 1848) told the writer in the spring of 1930 that the Rasors came here in 1818, crossing the river on the old Hartford-Vincennes Trail crossing, and that the Lincolns crossed on the same site (verbal).

Here are representatives of twenty-four pioneer families of this section agreeing upon the documentary evidence that the "Lincolns crossed at or near the mouth of Anderson," and are more explicit for the old trail crossing site at the present town of Grandview. Collected during seven years of research by C. T. Baker, editor of The Monitor. January 24, 1933.

I, S. W. Stuteville, clerk of Spencer Circuit Court, have read the above article concerning the traditional authorities evidencing the ferriage

of the Lincolns here in 1816, and have personally known many of the descendants quoted and know their statements to be worthy of public acceptance upon the matter of local history; and have also known C. T. Baker for more than twenty-five years and vouch for any evidence collected by him to be worthy of public acceptance.

S. W. STUTEVILLE,

Clerk of Spencer Circuit Court of Indiana.

Dated, January 25, 1933, at Grandview, Indiana.

S. W. Stuteville is a grandson of Eleanor Hammond who came here with her father, Joshua Samuel Hammond, in 1811 and married John Burns May 19, 1821. They lived within the present bounds of Grandview on the bank of Big Sandy creek.

J. Gambel Stuart.

J. Gambel Stuart, of Owensboro, Ky., a descendant of Col. John Hardin and whose great-grand-mother, Hannah Todd Stuart, was a first cousin of Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln, wife of Abraham Lincoln, after hearing a synopsis (Feb. 3, 1933) of the evidence of the Lincoln crossings of the Ohio river, told the writer his version was "undoubtedly correct."

(To be continued.)

Spencer County Lincolnia

7 Feb 1934
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Installment Number Two.

(Continued from last week.)

The landing of the Lincolns in Indiana has been described at some length in issues of *The Monitor* of December, 1931, and of the more than twenty-five characters mentioned in the dialogue presentation of pioneer life of the tinks, continued research has found but one character to be incorrect historically. It was, of course, largely fiction, but the characters were depicted according to descriptions given by descendants of those who knew the Lincolns intimately.

Traveling the Trail.

If there were no other evidence concerning the route of the Hartford and Vincennes Trail from the banks of the Ohio river to Gentryville the springs in existence today would so designate such route. Collins' History of Kentucky gives the definite point on the banks of the Ohio river for the trail in that state as the mouth of Blackford creek, which creek empties into the Ohio river directly opposite Grandview. "And the early roads followed these trails," states Collins.

There are several branches of these trails and two are here noted. The main trail would lead directly north from Grandview to the spring (later known as the Tinker Spring because Jesse Tinker lived near it), about five miles from the river, on north to the Reuben Grigsby spring, then north and slightly west to the Lin-

coln (sometimes called Barker spring as both at one time lived near it), near the Pigeon Creek Church which the Lincolns attended, and then west to Gentryville. The east, or high water branch, would pass over the hills to the Kellams spring, near the present Sargent school house, and on north to the residence of Sam Lamar (Goodspeed's reference to blockhouse at that place) and then northwest into the main trail south of the Grigsby spring. Minor trails connected the two at various points and were used according to the season and rainfall and other conditions. Locations of early settlers along these trails has been given in this paper several times and it is not necessary to repeat again. All maps of these trails appear to have been destroyed but some of the present generation have seen some of them.

Along this trail the "caravan" with the Lincoln family slowly made its way to the residence of Reuben Grigsby, at which they likely could arrive in one day as it is about fourteen miles from the river. Here the entire "caravan" would camp for one or more days as there were both ample water and friends there. Some were destined for places farther along the trail, but the Lincoln family selected a site a short distance north (perhaps a half-mile) and built their "open face camp" in which they lived the first winter. This "open face camp" was a common thing in those days and was quickly constructed by laying a pole across the limbs or forks of two convenient trees and enclosing three sides with saplings, brush, leaves and dirt, to keep out wind and rain. The site would be convenient for Thomas Lincoln as he labored under Grigsby's direction in cutting trees and preparing for the erection of the "still house" and its furnishings; and for the cooperage, at least, he would

need timber cut while the sap was not in it. Here also Mrs. Lincoln and the children could "neighbor" with the Grigsby family and perhaps spend the most disagreeable weather at the Grigsby home.

It is, apparently, utterly impossible to give an authentic order of events for the activity of the Lincoln family during this first winter and spring, but as Grigsby had visions of a profitable business to come, not only with distilling corn but also the purchase of hogs and the curing of meat for southern markets it is likely that the "still house" and a place to slaughter and cure meat and render lard was prepared. (This is so very probable as the later activity, according to tradition, proves the assumption. How much time was required to do all of this is unknown, but we have reason to believe that much of the spring and summer was used to complete the structure, vats, monster casks (several five feet tall), etc.)

A description of the furnishings of the "still house" has not been found in documentary evidence, but if the traditional stories can be relied on it was of no little proportions for the pioneer days. It is said that the vats were so large that Lincoln was imprisoned one day while cleaning one of them and nearly smothered before the arrival of help to open the manhole. It is said that a boy could slip the manhole cover in place but a man was needed to withdraw it again; and a mischievous urchin had seated the cover and Lincoln did much pounding before he attracted the attention of the needed help. If Thomas Lincoln could construct a cask five or even six feet tall, with diameter in proportion, he had knowledge and experience far greater

than most would give him credit to properly trim the staves, heads, etc., with his crude tools. If he accomplished the task upon first trial he undoubtedly had an education far beyond what most people give him.

However much assumption one may put into the task, it is likely that Grigsby made his first whisky in the autumn of 1817, and for at least the next ten years Thomas Lincoln's chief employment was the keeping of this "still" in proper working condition and making the cooperage in which Grigsby shipped his products. It is said that Grigsby planted one hundred acres in apple trees so that he might make apple brandy. It is also tradition that for one autumn's run of lard Thomas Lincoln made four hundred fifty-gallon tubs with covers for the expected shipment. And practically all of this was hauled to Sandy Creek Landing, the crossing point for the Hartford-Vincennes Trail, for shipment in flatboats made by Lincoln.

How long into the year of 1817 the Lincoln family lived in their "open face camp" will likely never be known, as the writer has never in documentary or tradition found anything to designate the end of the period. However it is very probable that during their stay in this rude shelter the Grigsbys were their closest neighbors and Mrs. Lincoln, Sarah and Abe found congenial companions at the Grigsby home. It is said that Mrs. Lincoln did most of the family washing at the Grigsby spring, which was less than half a mile from their shelter.

The First Cabin Home.

Samuel Howeli entered the east half of the southeast quarter of section 6, township 5 south, range 5 west, on which was a good spring of water, September 6, 1817, and tradition gives that Thomas Lincoln obtained a tenant lease in exchange for building a cabin and clearing certain land on this entry and into this cabin the family moved sometime during the summer or autumn of 1817. It was of the type common in those days and had a stick chimney in the east side and a door in the south side—with no other openings. It was on a knoll not far from the spring and this made a dry location for the floor, and it was very convenient to the spring. There would be a rude shelter for the horse and cow near it, though there was little thought in those days of tight shelter for stock, or for provender rouge. It is, apparently, not known whether Thomas Lincoln kept his oxen during these first years but it is quite certain that he kept the saddle horse and the cow as both of these would be of use. The horse would be used for trips away from home, and the cow furnished the milk used in the home.

Such occasional hauling as was necessary could have been accomplished with oxen obtained from Grigsby, as it is likely that Lincoln had very little of such work for himself.

About five weeks after Howell had entered his claim, Thomas Lincoln rode his saddle horse to Vincennes and made the first payment (October 15, 1817) on his claim, which he had chosen and marked a year before. His family may have been, and likely

was, in the cabin home by this time. He was in no haste, however, to build upon his own entry as he had a home that was very convenient to a good spring, the like of which he did not have upon his claim.

But the family is not to live in this cabin home many months.

(To be continued.)

Spencer County Lincolnia

Feb 8, 1934

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Installment Number Two.

(Continued from last week.)

The spring of 1818 finds the Lincoln family comfortably situated in their first log cabin home, but the mighty hand of destiny holds for them some unpleasant features of which they are totally ignorant.

Some time in the late spring they receive the news that Grigsby's brother-in-law, William Barker, and his family are to arrive in the early fall and that he will purchase their cabin home from Sam Howell, and it is exceedingly likely that Grigsby conducted the preliminaries of the deal. Word also comes that Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sparrow will likely come with them. (Some authorities state the Sparrows came a year earlier—1817.) Barker is at Bardstown, Ky., and his second son, Aaron Hamilton, was born there April 5, 1818. The Sparrows are at or near Hodgenville or Elizabethtown, and it is not yet considered safe for a family to make the long trip alone—it is very probable that another caravan was formed, but the list of families composing it appears to be lost.

The Barker family tradition is that they arrived in September, 1818, and Beveridge states the Sparrows came in early October. However, as the deaths of Thomas and Betsy Sparrow are given by several authorities as previous to that of Mrs. Peter Brooner and Mrs. Lincoln and that their graves were the first made upon the hilltop, it is safe to state that they came earlier. The Barkers claim their third son was born in the "Lincoln cabin" February 14, 1820; and the statement that they came in 1818 is supported by the statement in the obituary (Weekly Umpire of September 3, 1866,) that Barker "was the first military officer commissioned in the county," and the county was set off from Warrick and Perry in January, 1818. The War Department, however, has no record of the date of his commission nor length of service (kindness of E. D. Hayford and C. ng. Boehner). As the county records were burned in September, 1833, verification there is impossible.

Abraham Lincoln in 1864. From a Portrait
Considered by Many to Be His Best



Born near Hodgenville; Ky., February 12, 1809; came to Indiana with his parents in December, 1816; moved with his father to Illinois in March, 1830;—spent the formative years of his life in Indiana—died April 15, 1865.

Soon after the arrival of the Barkers it is said that the deal for the Howell entry was concluded and the Lincolns at once sought the erection of another cabin on or just north of the Howell entry. The records for the deed from Howell to Barker are lost, but Barker ceded this land to John Romine in June, 1830; and Romine entered the land on which stood the second Lincoln cabin in 1838.

The Lincolns liked the water from the spring near their first cabin home and were in no hurry to begin life upon his own entry for this reason. Some authorities quote Abe as stating "they used to carry water about a mile," and this would be from their third cabin home upon Lincoln's own land entry.

It must have been a dry autumn in 1818 and the cattle fed upon the tender weed, now called white snake root, and it caused the death of numerous cattle and calves; and reached

over into the human family and took a toll of lives among those who drank milk. There was a lassitude and constipation, a white coat on the tongue which later turned to brown, the stomach and intestines burned, the hands and feet grew cold, etc., and death followed in from sixty hours to two weeks, sometimes with convulsions. "The nearest doctor was thirty-five miles away," which likely was at Evansville; and the local natives knew of no curative treatment for the disease. Mrs. Lincoln, no doubt, had watched the deaths of Thomas and Betsy Sparrow and perhaps of Mrs. Brooner, as these were near neighbors—the Sparrows living in the "open ace camp" and Mrs. Brooner "about half a mile away."

And now she realizes that she has the first symptoms of the disease, for which there is no help. It is apparently unknown just how long Mrs. Lincoln suffered under its ravages, but it is said that she called her children, Sarah and Abe, to her bedside and told them to love God and be good to one another and meet her in heaven. She died October 5, 1819, in her thirty-sixth year; and "about a week after the death of Mrs. Peter Brooner."

Modest mother, whose illustrious son
Rose from the humble Hoosier home
To lead men's lives and thoughts,
while fame he won
As leader in a nation's throne.

Sealed were thy lips before thy son
began
His rise to fame and office great,
And yet the imprint of thy tutor-plan
Shows forth throughout his life in
state.

Great motherhood thine, may it yet
inspire
Nobleness in hearts as today
Many persons visit thy grave—desire
More knowledge of your work and
play.

May they not forget your honor to
God
As parting instructions you gave
To Sarah and Abe as alone you trod
Your path to eternity's cave.

Would that we knew more about you
while here;
Yet today we can honor give
As you sleep where your son's career
Was fashioned before you ceased
to live.

O, Nancy Lincoln! Thou didst give
to men
One whose noble thought, deeds
and life
Today leads the world in example
when
Great issues and turmoil are rife.

Reverently, without worship, we seek
Thy saintly character—honor,
Thus transplanted in one so young
and meek:
A world-wide model to ponder.

Spencer County Lincolnia

Copyright, 1934, C. T. Baker.

Installment Number Two.

(Continued from last week.)

Some writers have stated that Mrs. Lincoln died in a cabin bare of furniture and that about the only thing in the room was a bed of poles on which she lay during her illness and death. Please do not forget that Thomas Lincoln was an adept at wood working and made flatboats, five and seven foot casks and the cooperage for the Grigsby distillery, coffins for Thomas and Betsy Sparrow, Mrs. Peter Brooner, Mrs. Lincoln, and no one knows for how many others of that neighborhood, cupboards for the neighbors, chairs brick mold for Turnham, the pulpit, door and window casing for the Pigeon Creek church, etc., and it is very improbable that he would let his own home go without furniture when good timber was very plentiful and right at hand. The writer thinks he would have little to do during the winter of 1817-1818 and therefore would have plenty of time in which to make table, chairs, bed, cupboards, etc., that could be used in his home. That there is no record of these things does not prove they were not there, but that no one has thought to mention the fact. The presence of these articles would stimulate a call for others to be made for homes in the neighborhood. The writer thinks the room was furnished as well as the ordinary cabin home of the pioneer.

Not in documentary nor tradition (save the mention of Polly Richardson, age ten) has the writer learned of the names of the persons present at the time of her death, but her sweet disposition and lovable nature undoubtedly won for her many friends in this pioneer settlement. It is recorded in Hobson (Henry Brooner's statement) that she was present in the Brooner home during the illness of Mrs. Brooner and that they "lived half a mile apart" and she was undoubtedly present in the Sparrow home during the illness and death of Mr. and Mrs. Sparrow. Think you then that neighbor women

would shun her home in such a sad hour? If you do you know very little about the bonds of friendship between these early Baptist homes. No, indeed, Sarah and Abe Lincoln and their father had present in the home willing hands and sympathetic hearts to minister unto them in this sad hour of hopeless illness and death. According to some tradition collected by the writer and a study of the environment of the period, it is very probable that among those who prepared the body of Mrs. Lincoln for burial were Mrs. Nancy Grigsby, later the mother-in-law of Sarah Lincoln, Mrs. John Richardson (and daughter, "Polly"), Mrs. William Wood, Mrs. John Jones, Mrs. William Barker, Mrs. Thomas Turnham, and perhaps others. These were near neighbors. Mrs. Jacob Hanks like'y was also present.

While the women were preparing and dressing the body of Mrs. Lincoln for burial, Thomas Lincoln and Jacob Hanks (letter of Rev. E. J. Murr, July 25, 1933), an uncle of Mrs. Lincoln's who lived about three miles east on the Gentryville-Huffman Mill trail, whipsawed the plank and made the coffin, for which Abe fashioned the dowel pins with his father's pocket knife.

Just past the middle of the afternoon of the next day, according to the custom of the times, the neighbors gathered in for the burial and it is likely that the "little company," mentioned by some writers, included all or parts of the following families: Reuben Grigsby, William Barker, Rev. John Richardson, Peter Brooner, Samuel Howell, Noah Gordon, Davis Enlow, Edley Brown, Malon Wire, James Gentry and Thomas Turnham (both new arrivals in the neighborhood), John Jones, Lawrence Jones, William Woods, Jacob Hanks, James Wright, Jacob Oskin, William Stark, Thomas Carter, and likely others.

Grigsby had brought his oxen and these were hitched to a sled on which was placed the coffin, and Jimmie Grigsby, a young son of Reuben, drove them and on one of the oxen rode Allen Brooner, young son of Peter Brooner, to the hilltop a half-mile to the north on which were the graves of Mr. and Mrs. Sparrow and Mrs. Brooner. Mrs. Brooner's grave was not more than a week old (Hobson, and others). Here the body of Mrs. Lincoln was lowered into the earth and it is said there was not even a prayer of commitment. It is said that Abe stood at the east side

of the grave and Sarah was near by with Polly Richardson and other girl friends. As the last of the earth was placed in filling the grave, Peter Brooner reached across and took the hand of Thomas Lincoln (Hobson) and said, "we are brothers now," in the bond of sympathy through the loss of companions. There was genuine sorrow and sympathy, because the community had lost a good neighbor known for her sweet disposition, and religious character as shown in many and saintly deeds.

According to the custom of those days, the funeral sermon would not be preached until a "church day" at some future time; and the custom prevailed for years afterwards. It is said that young Abe very much desired that the former family pastor, Rev. David Elkins, preach the funeral sermon and he accordingly sent word to Rev. Elkins at the first opportunity; and Rev. Elkins heeded the request and came the next spring and preached the sermon at the grave, as the meeting house was not yet built, and this service "was very largely attended."

The Care of the Grave.

We leave the sorrowing father and two children now for a time and try and get the early history of this grave and its care. It has been a long search and has led to correspondence to many distant points.

At the filling of the grave or very soon after a stone from the nearby fields was placed at the head and foot, but they were unmarked by the hand of man. It is undoubtedly true that Sarah and Abe often placed flowers on the grave or mayhap planted some in the tree shaded earth at various times. The death of Sarah Lincoln Grigsby in 1828 and the removal of Abe with his father to Illinois in March, 1830, brought an end to this attention. There is very faint tradition that Thomas Lincoln set four cedar posts about the grave and enclosed it with some form of fence before he left for Illinois; but this is the end of the Lincoln family's personal attention. Contrary to the opinions of a few persons, the grave is not on land once owned by Thomas Lincoln but is on the land entered by John Carter November 8, 1817.

After March, 1830, the graves of Mrs. Lincoln and of Sarah Lincoln Grigsby were cared for by Reuben Grigsby and his sons with annual cleanings, though any other attention is unknown. This continued for many years.

ABE LINCOLN'S FIRST LOVE

By Major G. W. Kimball, of Mt. Vernon, in Rockport Democrat.

Abraham Lincoln undoubtedly visited these graves in 1844, when he was making a campaign tour of the county for Henry Clay and made addresses at "the cross-roads store" and voting place, (undoubtedly not far from the northeast corner of the last "eighty" acres purchased by Thomas Lincoln), Buffalo, Rockport and Gentryville. On this trip he also visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Grigsby, Jr., near the present Grandview, after spending the night with Redmond Grigsby and family. Abe's measure of the country he left, that hold the bodies of his mother and sister, is not very flattering, as evidenced in letters and the following verses, said to have been written soon after his return to Illinois:

"My childhood's home I see again,
And saddened with the view;

And still, as memory crowds my brain,
There's pleasure in it too.

O Memory, thou midway world
'Twixt earth and paradise,
Where things decayed and loved ones
lost

In dreamy shadows rise.

And, freed from all that's earthly
vile,

Seems hallowed, pure and bright,
Like scenes in some enchanted isle
All bathed in liquid light.

As leaving some grand waterfall,
We, lingering, list its roar—
So memory will hallow all
We've known, but know no more.

Near twenty years have passed away
Since here I bid farewell
To woods and fields, and scenes of
play,
And playmates loved so well.

The friends I left that parting day,
How changed, as time has sped!
Young childhood grown, strong man-
hood gray,
And half of all are dead.

I range the fields with pensive tread,
And pace the hollow rooms,
And feel (comparison of the dead)
I'm living in the tombs.

Following the line of thought in these verses, Abe undoubtedly visited the old farm, the graves of his mother and sister and some other friends, the log church where the family used to worship, and some of the empty cabins in which the family had lived.

(To be continued.)

A story of Lincoln's youth at eighteen as related to the writer at the latter's home by John M. Lockwood about 1900, or prior to his death.

Mr. Lockwood said he was eighteen years of age and was apprenticed to the man who conducted an old fashioned carding machine where native wool was carded in "rolls," from which yarn was spun into woolen fabric for clothing of the homespun variety by the early settlers. In this instance, the subject of this related sketch by Mr. Lockwood happened at the village of Princeton, in Gibson county, Ind. The incident happened in 1827 and was published in The Century by Mr. Jesse Weik, of Greencastle, for whom the writer secured this sketch.

So far as I know the sketch has never been in print except locally. It may have been burned together with the library of the late Mr. John Haas, son-in-law of John M. Lockwood, and therefore lost. I am relating as authentic just as Mr. Lockwood related it to me, to-wit:

"There came a young man dressed in homespun pants, which were short for the wearer and crude in make-up, riding horseback with a sheet of wool behind him. He inquired of young Lockwood (apprentice) at the carding machine, if the wool could be carded and how soon it could be done. It was then well up in the day and the apprentice replied that it could be finished at 3 p.m. The young man was told that so much of the wool would be taken as "toll," expense for labor, there being no cash furnished by the patron. The sheet was laid down. The question was asked for the young man's name, which he gave as A. Lincoln, from Spencer county. Instructions were then completed. The young man remarked that he would spend part of the time in the village until he was ready to return to his distant home. As young Lincoln was returning to the carding machine he saw two young ladies just ahead of him. He came hurriedly to the apprentice and enquired who they were. The apprentice answered that one was Miss Evans, daughter of General Evans of Evansville. Young Lincoln remarked that he would like to get an introduction to her. The apprentice smiled in derision at the difference in social position in life. The incident passed. Lincoln was sad and disappointed that his chance of getting an introduction to the young lady was so small, so with his rolls carded, with the toll taken as expense, he remounted his horse, having fastened the sheet behind him. He was soon lost in the distance. All of this was an incident and of itself merely forgotten.

Many years passed. The Lincolns had moved to Illinois. The same Lincoln was a candidate for President of the United States. Lockwood had become a capitalist in Mt. Vernon, remembering the name. Lincoln, which he had written with red ink on that sheet of wool at the carding machine many years before. He went to a place in Illinois to hear Lincoln speak. At the close of the address, Mr. Lockwood approached Mr. Lincoln. Lockwood, himself, had become prominent in social and business circles in his community and was in deep sympathy with Mr. Lincoln's candidacy for the presidency. It was a supreme moment for Lockwood to broach the long ago incident at the carding machine over at Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, when the distinguished speaker, as a youth, became interested in a certain young lady already mentioned in these memory notes. Mr. Lincoln became animated and with a smiling emphasis, said, "Mr. Lockwood, that was the scene of my first love."

Mr. Lincoln grew in popularity as President-elect. Upon his inaugural route to Washington his train was met by many Indiana citizens. As the train crossed the state and halted for a brief time, probably at Lafayette, General Orr, of Princeton and Evansville, was present at the inaugural train. The new president spoke briefly to the crowd among whom was Orr, who announced his name and town (Princeton). At the name of Princeton, Lincoln's mind instantly flashed back to the carding machine incident, and he admitted to Orr, as he had to Lockwood, that Princeton was the scene of his first love.

ABE LINCOLN'S FIRST LOVE

By Major G. W. Kimball, of Mt. Vernon, in Rockport Democrat.

A story of Lincoln's youth at eighteen as related to the writer at the latter's home by John M. Lockwood about 1900, or prior to his death.

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Spencer County Lincolnia

March 10, 34
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Installment Number Two.

(Continued from last week.)

The railroad began construction of its lines and on or very near the Lincoln farm was the depot and junction to Troy, Tell City and Cannelton and the John Shillito Company, of Cincinnati, O., thought to speculate and invested in land about the junction, purchasing more than three hundred acres with reservations therefrom for the right-of-way for the Cincinnati, Rockport & Southwestern Railway (Spencer county deed records) and the site of the former Lincoln home, and the deeds were made a matter of public record in November, 1871.

A young man came from Kentucky the next year and became the carpenter for this railroad, and to him belongs the honor of making the first donation of a fence around the grave of Mrs. Lincoln. James Pedigo was just as ardent a Republican as was his brother, Dudley, a Democrat, and in 1878 (letter of Mrs. James Pedigo, Malden, Mo.) he cut out the palings in Rockport and carried them to the grave, cut posts and rails from a nearby tree, and erected a picket fence about the grave. But in a very short time it was carried away by souvenir hunters and the grave was again exposed to the trampling of the stock running at large.

And the John Shillito Company laid out the town of Lincoln City and offered lots for sale, but apparently met with poor success and the sale of lots dragged. And at the annual picnics of Civil War veterans and at other times there were those who talked about a permanent marker for the grave, among them being Capt. J. W. Wartman, Prof. John Wytenbach of Rockport, and very likely others; but no result of their efforts was in line with a permanent marker at the grave.

July 25, 1879, the attention of Mr. Peter E. Studebaker was attracted to an editorial in the South Bend Trib-

une, dealing with the condition of the grave and he immediately wrote to Postmaster L. S. Gilkey, of Rockport, to learn if the grave was still neglected. Upon receiving an affirmative reply he sent Mr. Gilkey a check for fifty dollars with instructions to erect a suitable marker.

The Studebaker Marker.

Postmaster Gilkey placed the entire matter in the hands of General James C. Veatch, formerly county auditor and representative, who secured the assembling of some twenty people at the grave upon an appointed day of those who had intimate knowledge of the location of the grave (we have been unable to find documentary for the names of these people) and had them carefully and particularly designate the grave; obtained the co-operation of Alfred H. Yates, a marble cutter of Rockport (Rockport Journal of Nov. 26, 1879, for this and other facts), who used a slab of Italian marble obtained from Cincinnati, and cut the inscription—donating his labor and services. When it was completed a day was set and H. C. Branham, superintendent of the C. R. & Sw. Ry., donated free transportation from Rockport for all who wished to attend the erection of the marker. A delegation also arrived from Evansville. In the presence of about one hundred people the marker was set up at the grave; and a sandstone found at the grave was broken into small pieces and distributed among those assembled for souvenirs. Among those likely present who were also present at the burial of Mrs. Lincoln were Mrs. Hannah Gentry Romine, Allen Brooner and a Mrs. ——— Richardson.

General Veatch solicited donations of a dollar each and less among the people present and later from Rockport citizens and erected the iron fence which now stands around the grave.

Names of Donors.

(Mrs. Bess V. Ehrman supplies a copy of a petition to be presented before the Spencer county commissioners at their June term, 1880, giving the list of donors; but the entire document is of such historic importance that we wish to publish it as it appears—next week.)

And Civil War veterans and others continued to hold picnics in the Lin-

coln Grove; but the care of the grave was sadly neglected save for the annual cleanings of the marker by Mr. Yates.

Following the erection of the Studebaker marker, or in connection with its preparation and erection, John H. Huffman, county commissioner, and others secured from "Henry Lewis, trustee for himself, John Shillito, Robert Mitchell and C. W. West, of Hamilton county, Ohio," the deed for a half-acre of ground on which is the grave of Mrs. Lincoln, and the deed to the commissioners of Spencer county stipulates that it is for the purpose of "holding sacred the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, the mother of Abraham Lincoln, in trust for the people of the United States forever;" and this was accepted November 29, 1879 (Spencer county deed records, Vol. 42, page 380). J. H. Huffman, David J. Axton and J. W. Gwaltney were the commissioners at this time and received for the county the trust imposed.

And matters stood at a stand still for nearly eight years, but in June, 1897, Mr. Benjamin R. Dale, of Cincinnati, trustee for the heirs of the John Shillito Company, wrote Governor Mount stating the conditions of the neglected grave, and Governor Mount called together representatives of several patriotic organizations and societies and out of this conference was formed the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association. But even this organization did not accomplish much in real activity in care and improvement of the site nor its surroundings; and matters drifted along and picnics and reunions continued to be held in the Lincoln Grove.

The rebuilding of the tomb of Abraham Lincoln at Springfield, Ill., lent enthusiasm to the local supporters of the cause, and Hiram Brooner, a son of Allen Brooner, then serving as deputy auditor under John G. Rimstidt, called Mr. Rimstidt's attention to the fact that the farm surrounding the grave would be sold and, acting under Mr. Rimstidt's instruction, bargained for sixteen acres surrounding the grave and the Spencer County Council appropriated \$800 to pay for the same July 4, 1900; and the deal was consummated between Robert S. Ferguson and Carrie W. Ferguson, his wife, and the Commissioners of Spencer county—M. A. Jones, Z. E. Roberts and George J. Clements (see

deed record 65, page 290); Governor Mount giving his personal presence and influence to secure the consummation of the deal (statement of Mr. Rimstidt).

About this time the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association received a donation from Mr. Robert T. Lincoln, of Chicago, of \$1,000, and October 5, 1900, the commissioners of Spencer county conveyed to the trustees of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association the tract they had purchased surrounding the grave "to improve and keep in repair the land described in accordance with the purpose for which said association was incorporated" (deed record 65, page 565).

J. S. Culver, who remodeled the Lincoln tomb at Springfield, Ill., offered to recut one of the stones from the tomb and present it to the association, and October 1, 1902, it was placed in front of the Studebaker marker and the iron fenced enclosure and was dedicated; Gov. W. T. Durbin, president of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association, accepted the marker, and John C. Black made the principal address. The Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Band, of Knightstown, furnished the music. It was quite a pretentious program and about 2,000 people were present, including Mrs. Hannah Gentry Romine, who, as a girl, was present when Mrs. Lincoln was buried (Rockport Journal of Oct. 3, 1902). Allen Brooner, another person in the county who was present at the burial of Mrs. Lincoln, did not attend because of illness of his wife.

By an Act of the General Assembly of March 5, 1907, the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association transferred to the State of Indiana its holdings unto a "Board of Commissioners of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Burial Ground;" and the same Act provided \$5,000 for a fence to be built around the sixteen and one-half acres and other improvements. And September 7, 1907, Governor J. Frank Hanley appointed Dr. J. C. Jolly, of Lake (now Richland), B. F. Bridges, of Rockport, and Wm. H. Freeman, secretary of the State Board of Forestry, of Indianapolis, to this commission; and an iron fence was placed around the sixteen and one-half acres with an ornamental entrance executed by John Meyerberg, of Tell City and Cincinnati. But one of the first acts of the board was to hire Noah Spurlock to clean the grounds of brush and briars for the sum of

thirty-five dollars. Spurlock continued as custodian until 1929.

In October, 1907, the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association and the Spencer county commissioners transferred the holdings to the State of Indiana (deed record 73, page 129 and 290). Other local members of the Board of Commissioners of the Nancy Hanks Burial Ground were Davis Enlow and Dennis Van Winkle, of Lincoln City, during the life of that organization. But the records of transactions from this time are now in possession of the State Conservation Department and any one can continue the research there. The park now contains nearly 1,200 acres and very generous plans have been adopted for improvements.

Note.—Perhaps we have not been as generous in the quotation of authorities as some would like, but remember that this account has been quite largely from tradition, as the writer lives among the grand-children of those who knew the Lincolns intimately. We hesitate to go farther with the history of the grave, due in large measure to the reticence of some who, like others whom we have asked information, seem to wish their personality not to appear. Next week we may go back to the Lincoln family, now bereft of wife and mother, and follow them a while. The writer has recently found some new features that appear as total strangers to local Lincoln fans, and it will require quite a bit of research before we can use them. This may cause the close of the present effort for some weeks or months.

(To be continued.)

Spencer County Lincolnia

Copyright, 1934, C. T. Baker.

Installment Number Two.

(Continued from last week.)

The Rail Pen.

It is given in tradition that while returning from Washington in 1853, (or about that time), Abe Lincoln called on the Grigsby's and arranged with Nattie and Jim to build a fence around the grave of his mother to keep the stock off, as all stock had free range upon unfenced land, and this is the fence mentioned by the daughter of James Grigsby as "the rail pen" (Mrs. Bart Ince in South-western Indiana Historical Bulletin No. 18), and it was a "ten rail, staked and rided fence" around all the graves on the hilltop. There is also a faint tradition that this fence was built in 1861, but the first mentioned date is the most feasible of acceptance. This fence remained until after the assassination of President Lincoln in April, 1865, but was soon carried away by relic and souvenir hunters a piece at a time. It is said that some of these people came long distances to get one of these rails, thinking, no doubt, that Abe had split them from the log and built the fence; and by 1867 all remnants of this fence had disappeared, and the stock again ran over the graves and briars and brush encompassed it.

And there was no incentive in these days to hallow the grave of Abraham Lincoln's mother, nor his sister, and briars and brush grew about the graves. To his old neighbors, Abe was just a common boy who grew up there and was "predestined" and drawn into a prominent position by a combination of circumstances and following the lead of these circumstances he became the head of the Nation; but he was as much as ever "the boy, Abe," to these old friends and neighbors.

However, a new factor began to grow in a custom that eventually drew attention of the public. Veterans of the Civil War began to visit and then to meet in the "Lincoln Grove" in honor for their Commander in Chief, and the custom reached out

until in the dim dates of time local and outside veterans began to talk about a "marker for the grave of Lincoln's mother."

One of these outside-the-county veterans to visit this grave was William Z. Corbin, a veteran of an Ohio regiment, and he wrote the following poem, which was published in the Weekly Umpire, at Rockport, in 1868 (kindness of Elbert D. Hayford, of Augusta, Me., a son of Daniel Hayford, editor of the Umpire), and the poem was widely copied by newspapers throughout the state:

THE GRAVE OF LINCOLN'S MOTHER.

A wooded hill—a low sunk gave
Upon the hill-top hoary;
The oak tree's branches o'er it wave,
Devoid of slab—no record save
Tradition's story?

And who the humble dead, that here
So lonely sleeps?
And who, as year rolls after year,
In summer green or autumn sear—
Comes here and weeps?

So lone and drear—the forest wild
Unbroken seems—
We well might think some forest
child,
Grown tired of hunt of war-trail wild,
Here lies and dreams!

But no; no Red Man of the West
Inhabits here.
These clouds so oft by wild beasts
press'd
Now lie upon the moldered breast
Of one more dear.

For Lincoln's mother here is laid—
Far from her son.
No long procession: false parade,
Of pride or place was here displayed—
No requiem sung.

No summer friends were crowded
round
Her humble grave—
The summer breezes bore no sound,
Save genuine grief, when this lone
mound
Its echoes gave.

Her husband, and her children dear,
And neighbors rude—
Dressed in their hardy homespun
gear—
Were all that gathered round her
bier,
In this lone wood.

Pile high the marble above the breast
Of chieftain slain.
While, in the wildwood of the West,
In tomb by naught but nature drest,
His mother's lain!

In this lone grave in western wood,
Neglected lies;

And pride and pomp, and vanity,
From this lone grave must ever flee,
As mockeries.

A nation's grief and gratitude
Bedewed his bier;
For her who sleeps in solitude,
In this lone grave in Western wood,
Have ye no tear?

And shall the mother of the brave,
And true, and good,
Lie thus neglected in a grave
Unfit for menial, clown, or knave,
In this dread wood?

Oh! nation of the generous free,
Be this your shame;
And let this grave beneath the tree,
No longer thus neglected be
Without a name.

It is almost if not quite impossible to state with accuracy whether the sentiment in the county antedated the appearance of this poem or not, but following its publication there was a recognition of the need for a marker at the grave of Lincoln's mother, and from documentary of the times we place some or all of the following men at the head of the movement: Daniel Hayford, who succeeded J. A. Farley as editor and publisher of the Weekly Umpire in 1865, Capt. John W. Wartman, Joseph C. Richardson, L. S. Gilkey, L. Q. and T. E. DeBruler, R. T. Kercheval, of Rockport, and Capt. Charles S. Finch, of Grandview. There were undoubtedly others who should be mentioned along with these but we turn now to documentary for some of them. In December, 1869, there was a meeting held at Gentryville of which we have the following account:

Monumental Meeting.

Editor Monitor:—Pursuant to notice, a meeting was held in Gentryville on Friday evening, December 24, for the purpose of taking action upon the subject of erecting a monument to the memory of Mrs. Lincoln, mother of Abraham Lincoln, over her grave, two miles east of Gentryville, in Spencer county, Indiana.

On motion, Dr. Hougland was called to the chair, and J. M. Grigsby, Esq., chosen as secretary. The object of the meeting was briefly and pertinently explained by the chairman, when the following action was taken:

On motion of J. W. Lamar, Esq., a committee of three was appointed, consisting of J. W. Wartman, Esq., of Rockport, Dr. M. E. Lawrence, of Grandview, and T. P. Littlepage, Esq., of Buffalo, to draft articles of incorporation and report at the next

meeting. It was further moved that a committee of five be appointed on general arrangements to investigate and report the most practical and feasible plan of insuring success in the enterprise. It consisted of the following gentlemen, James Hammond, Esq., of Dale, J. W. Lamar, Esq., of Buffaloville, N. Grigsby, Esq., of Gentryville, James Gentry, Esq., and Hon. R. T. Kercheval, of Rockport.

It was also moved that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Rockport Journal, the Rockport Democrat, and the Grandview Monitor; when the meeting adjourned to meet in Rockport on Friday evening, March 4, 1870, at 6 o'clock in the court house.

J. H. Hougland, Chairman,
J. M. Grigsby, Secretary.

—Copy supplied by Miss Lilly Billingsley, whose father, George Billingsley, was an employee of The Monitor at that time.

December 7, 1871, the poem by Corbin was republished in the Rockport Journal, then edited by Prof. John Wyttenbach, whose daughter, Mrs. Flora Young of Richland, gives the following caption:

"We reproduce by request the following beautiful lines on 'The Grave of Lincoln's Mother,' by the rising young poet, 'Babby.' They were greatly admired at the time of their first publication, and the sentiment that inspires them commends itself to the earnest consideration of our people. The life of Mr. Lincoln was in every way so remarkable, so signal an instance of the power of free institutions to elevate from obscurity to fame and honor any man who is willing to labor honestly for that result, that a touching personal interest attaches itself to everything connected with his history. We shall soon have a railroad, the line of which runs through or near the farm where young Abraham labored with his father. This interesting spot will then be thrown open to the world; and the grave of Lincoln's mother should no longer be left without a suitable monument."

Prof. Wyttenbach was the second superintendent of Spencer county schools, and a son-in-law of David Turnham, and we regret that the authorship of the poem cannot rest with him, as many so think.

And Civil War veterans and others continued to hold gatherings and picnics in the Lincoln Grove; but the promotion of the Cincinnati, Rockport and Southwestern Railway was to be a factor in obtaining a suitable and lasting marker at this grave.

The Rockport Journal of July 4, 1874, states there was still no marker at the grave, but Civil War veterans and others held picnics in the Lincoln Grove; and at these times mention would be made of the need for a suitable marker, but no effort appears have materialized into action. How-

ever, it is claimed by some and as firmly disputed by others that Prof. Joseph D. Armstrong, editor of the Rockport Sentinel and first superintendent of the county schools, placed a marker at the grave in the autumn of 1874.

(To be continued.)

A marked copy of the Indiana History Bulletin for January 1934, was received last week from which we reproduce the following:

"Under the caption, 'Spencer County Lincolnia,' the Grandview Monitor of January 11 contained the first installment of a series of articles by C. T. Baker on the life of the Lincoln family in southwestern Indiana. In his first chapter Mr. Baker tells of the disposal of the Lincoln farm."

We are thankful for the recognition given and trust that future historical material may be worthy of acceptance.—The editor.

W. S. Lamar, a grandson of William Barker and also of John S. Lamar, writes that he finds these articles a reminder of "olden times."

Spencer County Lincolnia

Copyright, 1934, C. T. Baker.

Installment Number Two.

(Continued from last week.)

The Motherless Home.

Let us now go back to the motherless home of the Lincolns.

William Barker, with his wife and two young sons, is at the home of his brother-in-law, Reuben Grigsby, and wants possession of the home in which Mrs. Lincoln died, as he has purchased it from Samuel Howell. So Thomas Lincoln goes to the north end of the Howell entry, or perhaps just over the line (as this land to the north of Howell was not entered until the year 1838), and erects another cabin similar to the first, and into it is moved the belongings of the Lincoln home. Undoubtedly, they did not like to get too far away from that spring of good water. Sarah is now twelve years of age, and in that period of pioneer life, she would be thoroughly competent to care for the home, but it is reasonable to suppose that she would have the companionship, at least a part of the time, of her cousin, a daughter of Joseph Hanks, living about three miles east on the Gentryville and Huffman Mill trail.

Some time during the next season (of 1819) the members of the newly formed Pigeon Creek Baptist Church decide to erect a building (Goodspeed, page 426), and it is to be located about a quarter of a mile directly south of this new home, and almost directly east of the home they vacated. This would be quite near a good spring that would provide water for man and beast on "church days." Upon agreed days the men assembled and built the church and Thomas Lincoln made the pulpit, the door and window casings—and Abe carved his initials upon the inside of the window casing with his father's knife (as found years later when the structure was torn down).

Not much is known of the other activities of the family during the year of 1819 until a year passes fol-

lowing the death of Mrs. Lincoln (but Abe's first school in Indiana comes in this year—to be considered later). This schooling of Abe's and the happenings of the last two months of the year cause us to think that Thomas Lincoln prospered.

Late in November, 1819, Thomas Lincoln decides to visit the old neighbors in Kentucky. Sarah and Abe were taken to the home of Reuben Grigsby and no doubt that they found congenial companions here, as evidenced by Sarah's marriage to Aaron seven years later, while Abe played Knight errant to one of Aaron's sisters (Elizabeth) upon Aaron and Sarah's bridal trip to Kentucky in 1826 (Monitor of Feb. 16, 1928).

Taking Grigsby's saddle horse, he retraces the route he traveled three years before, crossing the Ohio river to the mouth of Blackford creek, up over Moore's Hill, around the site of Fort Blackford and then east on the Yellow Banks and Bardstown trail, undoubtedly greeted friends made on the former trip with the "caravan" and told them of the loss of his wife.

He likely arrived at Elizabethtown about the last day of November and immediately called upon Mrs. Sarah Bush Johnston (Beveridge, Herndon & Weik and others), who is now a widow, whom he had known before his marriage to Nancy Hanks, and told her of his condition and needs. The courtship must have been short (Ibid) and her only objection appears to be some small debts that keep her from accepting his proposal. He secures a list of these and brings her the assurance they are paid (Ibid), and the marriage license is obtained and the ceremony performed December 2, 1819 (Beveridge, page 41).

Seeking his brother-in-law, Ralph Krume, he secured his services with his team of four horses to take the new wife and three children, John, Sarah and Matilda (Herndon & Weik, page 27) and her household goods, including a walnut bureau worth fifty dollars (Ibid), to the crossing point of the Ohio river.

According to Kentucky tradition and the corresponding Indiana tradition, the Ralph Krume, or Sarah Bush Lincoln, party turned north from the Hardinsburg-Yellow Banks trail at or near Patesville and came to the Ohio river at the home of Squire Pate, on the Kentucky bank of the Ohio river. Here the household

goods and the members of the party were evidently ferried in a skiff, as no tradition in Kentucky nor Indiana mentions that Krume crossed the river; and the landing was at the home of Francis Posey, about a mile below the mouth of Anderson creek. According to the statement of James Harris, formerly mail carrier at this place, his grand-father, Hezekiah Harris, came with this party and crossed to Posey's Landing. Harris was nineteen years of age at the time. He is mentioned in the census report of 1820, and entered land near Santa Claus October 1, 1833 (Spencer county tract book for sec. 7, t5s, r4w: 40 acres).

According to tradition, and verified by Beveridge, page 42, the household goods were hauled from Posey's with a team of oxen. It is said that the party left their goods at Posey's and traveled to the home of Reuben Grigsby, where the greeting between Sarah and Abe and the new Mrs. Lincoln was most affectionate and cordial. Thomas Lincoln returned to Posey's with a team of Grigsby's oxen and hauled the household goods and belongings to his home.

All careful Lincoln students, and especially those who compare this account with documentary published previous to 1928, will note that in no place do any of them mention a "caravan" in connection with this crossing of the Ohio river but instead is the presence of Ralph Krume, and none of them mention that he crossed into Indiana. From this time forward, Abe will hear more or less of the crossing of the Ohio river near the mouth of Anderson creek and very little about the "caravan" crossing from the mouth of Blackford creek (see Sandage, page 29, footnote). Abe is now nearly ten years of age, and is it any wonder that in telling of the crossing of the "caravan" forty years later (when men began to enquire into his life and surroundings) that he would get the two crossing points mixed? Is it any wonder that the early writers would give a more correct account? They did not live near Spencer county and would naturally accept the general statement made by the subject of their writings. At no place in the early documentary is there evidence that either of these Lincoln families landed on the Indiana shore outside of the present bounds of Spencer county.

but now the Lincoln family is composed of two adults and five children (and Beveridge states another adult: Dennis Hanks) and the cabin is too small. While the cabin is re-arranged for this number to be made as comfortable as possible, it is reasonable to suppose that the new wife is urging Thomas Lincoln to build a more suitable structure upon his own land; and this cabin is built on the land entered by Lincoln October 15, 1817. Some claim it was only one large room, with a loft, while others claim it was built with two rooms and a loft. Later pictures show two rooms—and here the family will live for the next ten years.

Note.—We now approach some six or seven years of almost complete silence except for Abe's schooling; recently found tradition will lead to much verification before using and, if substantiated, will be a surprise for all Lincoln students. No one knows when this contribution will be continued—but we have found some interesting historical data of this section that will be of interest.—Editor and author.

Lincolnia

A CORRECTION: In the issue of March 8, under the heading of Spencer County Lincolnia, in the third column, we find a reference incorrectly given. In the paragraph starting "All careful Lincoln students," reference is made to "Sandage, page 24, foot note," when it should have been read, "Herndon & Weik, volume 1, page 29, foot note." And the sentence should read "From this time forward, Abe will hear more or less of the crossing of the Ohio river near the mouth of Anderson creek and very little about the 'caravan' crossing from the mouth of Blackford creek (see Herndon & Weik, vol. 1, page 29, foot note)."

ABE LINCOLN'S FIRST MILITARY TRAINING IN SPENCER CO.

(C. T. Baker)

It may be a new thought to some of our readers that Abraham Lincoln received his first military training in Spencer county, but such is undoubtedly the case. Abraham Lincoln came into the county when he was slightly under seven years of age and left the county after he became twenty-one years of age, and, therefore, had three years of enforced military training while a resident in the county.

The authority for this statement concerning this enforced military training will be found in the Illinois

Historical Collections, volume XXI pages 399 to 425, (Grandview Library), which includes the laws concerning the militia and its activity approved September 17, 1807, by the territorial legislature sitting at the Burrough of Vincennes, and signed by Jesse B. Thomas, speaker of the House of Representatives; B. Chambers, president of the Council; and William Henry Harrison, territorial governor; which laws were in force as late as 1833—three years after the Lincolns left the county.

From the History of the Indiana National Guard, page 68 (State Library), we learn that the organization of the militia was maintained and "held in high repute" until 1833—three years after the Lincolns left the county; and Goodspeed's History of Warrick, Spencer and Perry Counties, page 92, states that a semblance of military organization was continued until the campaign for the Mexican War.

The laws provided that each man must furnish his own gun or rifle and ammunition; and the officers their own simple uniform, etc. There must be at least four drill days each year, and at the October drill or muster day the entire regiment or battalion must meet at a selected place; and other drill days could be by companies. Fines were to be levied for failure to appear for duty upon these days (with few exceptions), and if one leaves his community he must get permission and transfer his enrollment to his chosen place of residence. Each able bodied man between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years must be enrolled.

During the days previous to 1812 (Cockrum's Pioneer History of Indiana, chapters IX and X) the menace

from the Indians caused a rather careful organization, and during the war with the British—1812 to 1814—the stimulant was not removed and this military activity was taken quite seriously and the drilling really amounted to a worth-while activity, but later it became a day of great debauchery and rough frolic for the reason that the men were exempt from arrest for offenses that would otherwise have been punished (His. W., S. & P. Cos., page 92).

It is very regrettable that early records (often poorly kept) have been destroyed, else one might find documentary evidence to prove that Abe Lincoln and the other boys of his neighborhood had been enrolled and drilled under known officers.

However, we may be assured that Abe had been enrolled in some company in the spring that he was eighteen (1827) and that for the years of 1827, 1828 and 1829 he appeared for duty upon drill days with the other men and boys of his community; but if we ever learn who his officers were it will come from some person whose ancestor held the muster roll, as the public records have been lost or destroyed by fire. No one today knows where the chosen place for this drilling was nor under what officer or officers. In the early days each county had a colonel and William Barker's obituary (published in the Weekly Umpire of September 3, 1866) states that he was the "first military officer commissioned in the county" and his rank or title was "colonel." From another source we learn that Mason Jones Howell was commissioned a colonel in 1820; and both of these men were neighbors of the Lincoln family. The commission for colonel was for a period of five years and it is not known whether Barker resigned and Howell was commissioned in his stead, or for some other reason.

From the documentaries above quoted it is very probable that Abe Lincoln had at least twelve days of compulsory military training while a resident of this county and very likely attended other drill days—to be with the crowd.

IGNORING A SLIGHT

The Little Big Man.—In one of his novels, Ed Howe described a character to whom he gave the name of Lytle Bigg. He was a small man filling a large place and his own opinion of his importance was enormous. In looking up the incident of "Lincoln's Dream" the other day, I ran upon the story of the President's encounter with one of the small Biggs of the time—and there were many. Their opinion of the President was universally unfavorable, and some of them did not hesitate to state it.

During a part of the time when General George B. McClellan was head of the Army of the Potomac, the headquarters of the army were at his house on H street, in Washington. To save the time of the general, who was supposed to be a busy man, President Lincoln, when he wished to confer with him, walked to his house.

One evening the President called on Secretary of State Seward and when some matter came up about which they wished to consult McClellan, the two walked to his home and were told that he was out.

After they had waited nearly an hour, the general returned, and was told by an orderly that the President and Secretary of State were in the drawing room waiting to see him. He nodded and went on up stairs.

After waiting a little longer, the President, thinking that his name had not been announced, sent a servant to General McClellan's room and was given the answer that the general had retired for the night.

The President and the Secretary of State, after a half laugh, went away. The tolerance and broad-mindedness of the President were shown by the fact that nothing was done about the matter.

The incident is almost unbelievable. But an account of it is also given in Nicolay & Hay's "Abraham Lincoln," Vol. 4, page 468, in these words:

"The friendly visits of the President to army headquarters were continued almost every night until the 13th of November, when an incident occurred which virtually put an end to them. On that evening Mr. Lincoln walked across the street as usual, accompanied by one of his household to the residence of the Secretary of State, and, after a short visit there, both of them went to General McClellan's house on H street. They were there told that the General had gone to the wedding of an officer and would soon return. They waited nearly an hour in the drawing room, when McClellan returned, without paying any special attention to the orderly who told him the President

was waiting to see him, he went up stairs. The President, thinking his name had not been announced, again sent a servant to his room and received the answer that he had gone to bed. Mr. Lincoln attached no special importance to this incident, and so far as we know; never asked for an explanation nor received one. But it was not unnatural for him to infer that his frequent visits had become irksome to the General. There was no cessation of their friendly relations, though after this most of their conferences were held at the executive mansion."

One wonders what would have happened to the country, had McClellan been elected to the presidency in 1864.—Contributed.

Lincolnia

LINCOLN, as Seen by His Law Partner.

Several years ago, a correspondent of the Boston Transcript sent to that newspaper, under the initials of "T. B.," a communication stating that the letters given below, by W. H. Herndon, Lincoln's law partner in Springfield, were written to his great uncle in 1874. We think they are particularly appropriate for this column, and we are indebted to J. Roy, of Owensville, Ind., for the copy.

Chinkapin Hill P. O., Sangamon County, Ill. Jan. 15, 1874.

Mr. N: You say you desire to know all possible things of the good and great dead. I have just now a few moments to spare, and I do not know how better to spend them than to tell you what Mr. Lincoln really was and what he was not. Mr. Lincoln was a kind, tender and sympathetic man, feeling deeply in the presence of suffering, pain, wrong or oppression in any shape; he was the very essence and substance of truth; was of unbounded veracity, had unlimited integrity, always telling the exact truth, and always doing the honest thing at all times and under all circumstances. He was just to men; he loved the right, the good and true, with all his soul. I was with Mr. Lincoln for twenty-five years, and I can truthfully say I never knew him to do a wrong thing, never knew him to do a mean thing, never knew him to do any little dirty trick. He was always noble. In his nature he felt

nobly and acted nobly. I never knew so true a man, so good a one, so just a one, so uncorrupted and so incorruptable a one. He was a patriot and loved his country well, and died for it. Mr. Lincoln expressed his great feeling in his thoughts, and his great thoughts in his feelings; he lived in his thoughts, and thought in his feelings. By these his soul was elevated and purified for his work. His work was the highest and grandest religion, noble duty nobly done.

Mr. Lincoln was cool and calm under the most trying circumstances; he had unbounded charity for all men. In religion he was a Theist, somewhat after the order of Theodore Parker. Mr. Lincoln was not a speculative-minded man; was, like Washington, severely practical; he never ran in advance of his age, and yet was always directing the ideas and feelings of men to purely practical ends, to something that would end in good. Mr. Lincoln never shaped his veracity, integrity or virtue to circumstances; he fashioned and formed circumstances, so far as he could, to virtue, veracity and to integrity. He scorned meanness everywhere and at all times, and was bold and manly in his denunciation of wrong, however and by whom done; he was not a foxy, tricky man; he was a statesman high above all tricks. How such a man as Lincoln could walk up to the highest point of human grandeur, from such a low origin, God only knows. But so it was ordained from the beginning and so it is. Mr. Lincoln was a man of great fidelity to what he believed was right—was true to friends, never deserting them until they deserted virtue, veracity and integrity. Mr. Lincoln could be, and was, trusted by the people with

almost omnipotent power, and he never abused it nor shook the public faith in him. He was true to his trust, true to his country, and true to the rights of man. What a noble man, and what a noble life he lived. Washington was America's creator; Lincoln was its saviour. Mr. Lincoln now stands up against the deep blue sky the grandest figure of the age.

I have now stated to you Mr. Lincoln's leading characteristics, and if you like him better for them I am well satisfied with what I have told you. I have weighed every word and sentence, and can truly say they are true to Lincoln and Lincoln true to them. Mr. Lincoln was not a very social man. He was not spontaneous in his feelings; was, as some said, rather cold; he was rather reflective—not cold. However, take him all in all, he was as near a perfect man as God generally makes.

Yours truly,
W. H. Herndon.

Chinkapin Hill P. O., Sangamon County, Ill. Feb. 4, 1874.

Mr. N.: I received your kind note dated the 31st ultimo, this moment. The letter I wrote you cost me no trouble, and to know that it pleased you, I am more than paid for the little time consumed in writing it. You will perceive in my lecture on Mr. Lincoln's religion, I state that Mr. Lincoln's jokes were vulgar, indecently so. Without some explanation, those words may mislead you. Mr. Lincoln was raised among a peculiar people—an ignorant but good people—honest folk. Hence Mr. Lincoln preferred jokes to fables or maxims, as they, for his people, had the pith and force about them to make the point luminous, clear, plain.

Mr. Lincoln was not a dirty, foul-mouthed man by any means. He, by nature, was chaste enough in his ideas and language, and when talking on business, or to a gentleman, he was as refined and chaste in his language as any man. He simply chose his jokes for their pith, force and power; and, in my opinion, for no other reason.

Mr. Lincoln was cut out for a perfect gentleman, and was such. I have known Mr. Lincoln to keep in the circuit (as the court and lawyers travel around from county to county) crowds of people in full laugh till near daylight. In villages the whole male population would assemble about early candle-light of an evening at the tavern at which Mr. Lincoln put up, to hear his jokes. I have seen men, sedate old men, hold their sides to keep them from "splitting wide open," to use their expression, at his jokes. Mr. Lincoln could mock

CAPT. VEATCH

(Continued from)

voluntary contributions and never be against the county.

And we further as Armstrong be made that committee.

Very respectfully,

James H. William,

L. S. Gilkey,

R. T. Kercheval,

Contributions from Spencer county for procuring and putting fence to enclose the Hanks Lincoln at Spencer county, Ind. (dollar each.)

November 28, 1874.
William Statler,
John Basye, James Hayford, John B. Garlinghouse, G. E. Thomas, Allen Gent

Dr. I. L. Milner,
Philip Eigenman,
W. T. Mason, J. R. Smith, J. C. Richard caskey, L. S. Gilkey

R. T. Kercheval,
James H. William, R. Wedding, J. W. Cunlaid, E. F. Rogers, James G. Greathouse

Dr. James M. D. Wright, Henry R. Ambrose, Henry R. Hardy, George B. Isaac Gillette,

John G. Krueger, J. D. Armstrong, H. C. Pentecost, N. Kohlbecker, B. F. Walker.

Total amount collected
Cost of iron fence
Freight on same ...
Labor of putting up
For trading lands ...
Balance in hands of
Veatch

Now come James Gilkey and Robert present a memorial Henry Lewis of Cincinnati conveyed by deed of Board of Commissioners county one-half acre coln City, in said county the grave of Nancy the mother of Abraham situated and that P. of South Bend, Indiana to be erected at said tombstone and that Rockport and vicinity said grave with a near

NOTICE

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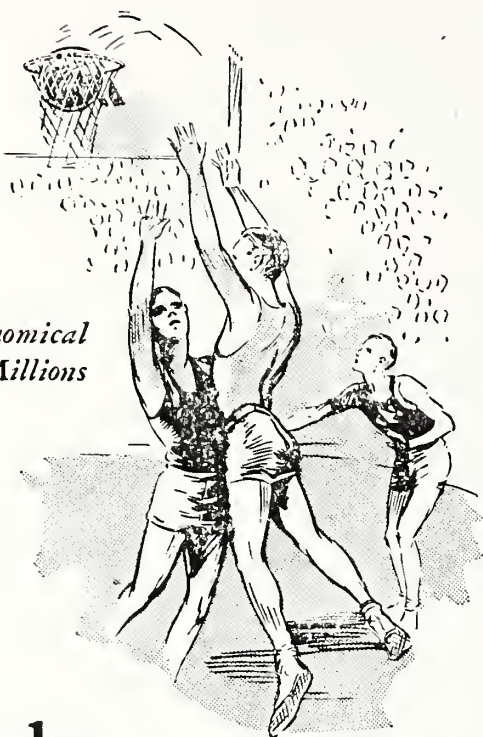
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... men, sedate old men, hold their sides to keep them from "splitting wide open," to use their expression, at his jokes. Mr. Lincoln could mock or mimic or imitate the thing or man so well as he told his stories that no man, be he preacher of the very Gospel, could help laughing. Mr. Lincoln was sometimes very gloomy, but let him get with his chums and tell two or three stories, and then it was that the sunshine of happiness burst full aglow in him.

With this explanation, with my letter to you, and my lecture, I hope you now understand Mr. Lincoln better than ever before.

If such is the case I am content. Mr. Lincoln was not a courtly, polished man, yet he was a gentleman.

Yours truly,
W. H. Herndon.

"True Temperance."

We had an expression of so-called "True Temperance" in our Saturday evening paper. It was down in the police court. This was the first real police court since the repeal of the Fifteenth Amendment and the establishing of liquor stores for the distribution of liquors.

John Barleycorn is back on the job, and for the first time in fifteen years police court was filled with drunks, wife beaters and humans who had fallen prey to repeal or 3.2 plus.

Readers of this paper who have followed closely the news in the courts of local magistrates will testify that there is a change, and that it is not a very difficult matter to establish whether there was more drinking under the prohibition laws or since "True Temperance" has become a reality.—Monessen (Pa.) Independent.

The Smithsonian Institution boasts a collection of more than 5,200,000 bugs in its division of insects. Each of the twenty-five scientists assigned to the division concentrates on one type of insects, which arrive by the hundreds every day from every state and even from other countries.

It is said that foxes are now so plentiful in this county that rabbits are becoming quite scarce. Foxes are very fond of young rabbits.

State forestry departments distributed nearly 50,000,000 young trees for planting last year.

... to be erected at said grave a suitable tombstone and that the citizens of Rockport and vicinity have enclosed said grave with a neat iron fence,

And ask that this board accept the trust imposed on them by Henry Lewis and that for the purpose of protecting, preserving and further improving the grounds so conveyed to them that a committee of ten citizens of Spencer county, including J. D. Armstrong, county auditor, be appointed to act under the orders of the board in taking charge of the said premises and protecting and improving the same.

It is therefore ordered that the trust conveyed to the Board of Commissioners of Spencer county in the deed of Henry Lewis, executed on the — day of —, 1879, and recorded in Book —, page —, in the records of deeds of Spencer county, is hereby accepted and the request of the memorial granted by the appointments of the following named persons, to-wit:—

David Turnham, Nathaniel Grigsby, J. D. Armstrong, R. T. Kercheval, James C. Veatch, Joseph Gentry, John W. Lamar, L. S. Gilkey, Dr. I. L. Milner, Henry C. Branham,

Who will act as a committee under orders and directors of the Board in charge of said grounds; and they are authorized to receive voluntary contributions and expend the same in such manner as they or a majority of them may deem fit in improving and protecting said grave and grounds.

The members to serve without compensation and all expenses must be paid by voluntary contributions and no cost or expense of any kind touching said trust shall be paid by the county.

Said committee will be required to make report to the county board at their June term in each year.

And the above petition was presented at the June term of commissioners' court (Commissioners' Record 1, page 224), and the matters therein prayed for were granted.

The bison calf, unlike the calf of the domesticated ox which often is trampled upon by the stampeding herd, when frightened gets close behind the right foreleg of the mother and runs there, being protected from the attacks of enemies and from injuries by the stampeding herd.

Lincolnia

LINCOLN'S BAPTIST TRAINING

(By Charles T. White, in Baptist Examiner.)

Lincoln was Baptist trained.

The Baptists have a right to claim him, although in his development he expanded beyond any denominational boundaries.

John Drinkwater, the English man of letters, says that Lincoln is "the best the race has produced," while thoughtful people the world around long ago subscribed to the utterance by Secretary Stanton on the night of the assassination that he "belongs to the ages."

Lincoln's religious environment from his earliest childhood to the time he was twenty-one was "Baptist."

Thomas and Nancy Lincoln were members of the Little Mount Baptist church, near Elizabethtown, Kentucky, not far from the log cabin in which Lincoln was born.

When in 1816 the Lincolns moved from Kentucky into the neighborhood of Gentryville, Indiana, the first house of worship they attended was the Pigeon Creek Baptist church, the edifice of which Thomas Lincoln and his boy, Abraham, helped to build.

Moreover, young Abraham became sexton of this log church. The interesting fact seems to be well accredited.

Baptist pioneer preachers in Hardin county, Kentucky, where Lincoln was born, were the first west of the Alleghenys to speak against the inherent wickedness of slavery. "Tom" Lincoln was impelled to move from Kentucky to Indiana largely because Kentucky was a "slave" and Indiana was a "free" state.

Research has brought to light a fund of interesting new Lincoln history. No single item is more interesting to church people, and especially Baptists, than the record that Abraham Lincoln once served as sexton of the Little Pigeon Creek Baptist church, near what is now Lincoln City, Spencer county, Indiana, while his father was a trustee of the church.

When the Lincolns arrived in Spencer county, Indiana, in November, 1816, the Pigeon Creek Baptist society had been organized for several months. In 1819 the society voted to build a meeting house, and in March, 1821, the church building was erected.

A resolution entered in the minute book of the church specifies the size of the church as follows:

30 by 26 feet, of hewed logs,
8 feet in the under story and
6 feet above the joists.

Rev. Caleb A. Obenshaim, pastor of the Memorial Baptist church, Dewey, Oklahoma, in 1866 was teacher in the Rockport (Indiana) Academy, near Gentryville. In company with a Methodist preacher friend, Rev. J. J. Stallard, he visited the old Pigeon Creek Baptist church not occupied at the time.

"While in the old church," writes Mr. Obenshaim, "I climbed up into the loft to familiarize myself with the building, and discovered in a crevice between two of the upper logs an old faded memorandum book that had been used in other years. Opening it and scanning its contents I found the entry where the church was charged

Dr. to one boom

" 1/2 doz. tallow candles
and signed Abe Lincoln, Sexton.

"To me," continues Obenshaim, "it was an interesting discovery, but I did not then realize the value of that little entry in Lincoln's own handwriting as I have realized it since. So after noting it carefully I placed

the memorandum book back in the crevice in which I found it."

This log church stood until 1880, when it was razed, and the logs were sold to use in building a barn.

Abraham Lincoln's sister, Sarah, married Aaron Grigsby August 2, 1826, four months after she had joined Pigeon Creek church. She died on June 20, 1828, and was one of the first members of the congregation to be buried in the new Pigeon Creek burying ground.

Thomas Lincoln was still serving as a trustee of the church at the time of his daughter's death, and it is likely that Abraham Lincoln's services as sexton extended over some period of his father's administration as an officer.

Residents of the Gentryville and Rockport neighborhood, who remembered the old church, support the statement of Mr. Obenshaim that entrance could be made to the loft where the old record book was said to have been found by him. An early resident of the region remembers the church as "a long narrow building, one and a half stories high, having a very large fireplace at the end of the building, with a pulpit made of roughly hewn boards. It had a window with no glass, but heavy wooden shutters immediately behind it, at one end of the structure, and a ladder led to the upper story where people might stay over night."

In an 1860 campaign life of Lincoln the manuscript of which he himself read and corrected, there is a record giving a picture of the home life and activities of the Lincolns in their forest log cabin home. It says in part:

"Upon the arrival of the family in Indiana the friends, who were left behind were to be written to. The elder Lincoln could do nothing more in the way of writing than bunglingly sign his name. The mother,

taught the accomplishment of writing. In this emergency Abraham's skill as a penman (then in his eighth year) was put into requisition, and with highly satisfactory result. From that time forward he conducted the family correspondence. This fact soon becoming public, little Abraham was considered a marvel of learning and wisdom by the simple minded settlers, and ever afterward as long as he remained in Indiana he was the letter writer of the neighborhood.

"In the autumn of 1818 Abraham, in the loss of his mother, experienced the first great sorrow of his life. Although of but limited education she (Nancy Lincoln) was a woman of great native strength of intellect and force of character. She, as well as her husband, was a devout member of the Baptist church. It was her custom on Sunday when there was no religious worship in the neighborhood to employ a portion of the day in reading the Scriptures aloud to her family. After Abraham and his sister had learned to read they shared by turns in this duty of Sunday reading."

"An unforgettable picture of a frontier Baptist home, with mother and children reading the Bible on Sunday as a regular habit!

Lincolnia

WHY ABRAHAM LINCOLN NEVER JOINED THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

The following excellent article was found in the February number of "Missions," a Baptist periodical published at 152 Madison Avenue, New York City, and written by John F. Cady, of Boonville, Ind.—Editor.

(Authorities and other references are omitted for readability.)

When Abraham Lincoln was fourteen years old his father, Thomas Lincoln, and his step-mother, Sarah Rush Lincoln, joined the Baptist church of Little Pigeon, Indiana, in June, 1823. The church itself had been organized in 1816, but its growth was slow so that by 1823, when the Lincolns affiliated, it had only forty-seven members. Its theology was largely Calvinistic. The parent organization of the Little Pigeon church was the Goshen Baptist Association in Kentucky, just across the Ohio river.

More significant than the theological beliefs of these early Indiana Baptists in influencing the religious inclinations of Abraham Lincoln were the strong prejudices which the denomination had inherited from their Virginia and North Carolina persecutions at the hands of the Anglican clergy. They were thoroughly opposed, for example, to any kind of ecclesiastical system, to the union of church and state, or to the employment of a salaried or a professionally paid ministry. This religious and social background of a pioneer Indiana community may possibly explain why Abraham Lincoln, although born of a Baptist father, never joined a Baptist church.

Thomas Lincoln was an orderly, honest, dependable member of the congregation. He made occasional contributions of food and materials for the support of the church. His conduct as regards drinking and swearing was more or less exemplary. His entire family attended the meetings. Tradition says that when Abe was fifteen he often repeated the sermons of the preachers, including their tones and gestures, but there was no evidence that he was ever deeply impressed by their utterances. Thomas served as trustee of the church, as a delegate to a council for organizing a new church, and as chairman of a committee to investigate differences between local members.

In the Little Pigeon church, meetings were held only once a month. All church business was transacted on Saturday. Then came preaching services which extended over until the afternoon of Sunday. Various elders, who as a rule received no pay for their services, took turns in preaching to the congregation in vigorous frontier fashion. These meetings afforded abundant opportunity for social intercourse and constituted, therefore, an important institution within the community. Here were set the standards of speech and thought for the majority of the people. It is not surprising to find that local prejudices, both social and political, were frequently reflected in them.

There were probably two reasons why young Abe developed little interest in the affairs of the family church.

In the first place, he was becoming introduced by his incessant reading during these years to a world extending far beyond the horizon of the average lad of Pigeon Creek. The newspapers and the conversation which he found at the Jones' store satisfied measurably some of his curiosity, while the monthly church meetings apparently afforded nothing to which his mind would respond. As a consequence he became subject to strange moods, abruptly aloof toward his plodding, unimaginative father, who regarded Abe's excessive interest in books and in the expression of ideas as evidence of laziness if not of downright perverseness. The relationship was not improved by the fact that the youth was hired out by his father to various neighbors for all sorts of rough work, a practice which constituted a deliberate interference with his reading.

A second factor, not sufficiently explored heretofore by students of the subject, is to be found in the issues and controversies which were being agitated among the factions of the Little Pigeon Baptist church and the Association to which it belonged.

The principal matter of controversy which plagued the churches of the Little Pigeon Baptist Association for almost a score of years after it was organized in 1821 was whether or not they should support the program of missions and other benevolent enterprises which the Baptists of New England in particular were advocating with vigor. When the question of correspondence with the Mission Board was referred to the various churches for decision in 1823, the Little Pigeon church voted with the majority in rejecting the proposal.

Reasons for this anti-missionary attitude are easily understood. Prejudice against New England leadership was a primary cause. Many saw in the enterprise an unscriptural attempt to set up an ecclesiastical hierarchy which might trespass upon the independence of individual churches. The incessant appeals for funds on the part of traveling missionary agents, furthermore, gave rise to the dark suspicion in the minds of partisans that this was another of the nefarious schemes by which the monied-interests of the East were seeking to dominate the political and religious affairs of the country. This resistance to the missionary program on the part of the Western Baptists, therefore, had its roots in the same provincial spirit from which the party of Andrew Jackson arose during the same years. The horny-handed elders of the Western churches would not see their places of leadership usurped by the pert youngsters sent out by the missionary societies, who seemed to suggest that educated ministers alone were qualified to preach.

(Continued next week.)

Mr. M. L. Houser, of Peoria, Ill., has sent the editor a copy of his fine booklet, "Abraham Lincoln, the Student—His Books." A request from far away Los Angeles, Calif., to send Mr. Houser a copy of *The Monitor* containing an article concerning Abe's Hoosier Education, and we have learned that Mr. Houser had also a greater glimpse of the opportunities Abraham Lincoln found in Hoosierdom. The booklet is very nicely printed and contains photographic reproductions of title pages of the books the author has found that were studied by the ex-president. It is a valuable masterpiece and its title page gives the information that it is "privately printed and not for sale." The editor values it highly; and will continue the hunt for trustworthy sources of Lincoln's Hoosier education.

Lincolnia

April 19, 1934

The Old and the New

Near Springfield, Ill., is the town of New Salem, where Lincoln toiled, unsuccessfully, as a shopkeeper, and experienced his sad romance with Ann Rutledge. The state of Illinois has unearthed the foundations of the houses in this hamlet and upon them, guided by the patient studies of Architect Herrick Hammond and others, has built faithful replicas of the original dwellings.

They are equipped with furniture and utensils, some authentic, some accurate reconstructions. Every effort has been made to make the visitor feel that he is back in ante-bellum days. The main street is as unpaved as it was when the young Abraham stood on the bluffs overlooking the Sangamon and dreamed of going to Springfield to practice law. Automobiles go up by a back road, and are parked out of sight. The tourist can turn the windlass and draw water from the very well at which Lincoln drank, and forget that time has moved. Even the guide who took us around seemed of the past. In boots and cap and leathern jerkin, he drew himself up when offered a gratuity, and observed pointedly that he was paid by the State of Illinois.

And then, leaving a day when men made houses of logs and read by the light of candles they had moulded and drank deep of whisky that fetched twenty cents a gallon, we rolled away to the south, drawn by the power of a hundred horses. Chill had come with the dusk, and a device was turned on that gave more heat than any house in New Salem enjoyed. On the back seat mother sat with her nose glued to the pages of a book, while we floated through space at sixty miles an hour. And while I tried to adjust Lincoln to knee-action wheels, a voice with an Oxford accent said suddenly: "Hello, America;" and I listened to a talk on the wonders of modern science, coming from London, England.

Life was harder in Lincoln's time, but it was simpler.—Clipping from the Chicago Daily News; contributed by J. Roy Strickland.

And in southern Indiana today the visitor at the Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Park, at Lincoln City, Ind., on Road 162, may walk to the south on the gravel path from the amphitheater to the old Pigeon church and cemetery, visit the grave of Sarah Lincoln Grigsby, Abraham Lincoln's

sister, then pass in front of the present building and then toward the setting sun about one hundred yards, and find on the right of the dirt road a spring walled with hand-made brick from which Sarah and Abe and their mother often dipped from when they lived in their first cabin home. At the edge of the road, below the spring is a cottonwood tree and tradition gives that it is a growth from a withe that Thomas Lincoln plucked from a tree on the river bank as he rode his saddle horse up from the water's edge and, arriving at the home, stuck it down in the mud. To the north a short distance (on the first rise) is the site of this log cabin home in which Mrs. Lincoln died.

Then if the visitor is still more interested he may drive over the dirt roads by a circuitous route to the site of the old Grigsby spring, near which was the Grigsby home and still house: the place where Thomas Lincoln was employed much of the time during his residence in Indiana. All signs of the home and still house are gone and even the spring is hidden behind a small grove of catalpas, but its waters still run in the accustomed course and definitely mark the

site of the interesting Lincoln activities. The old trail, cut deep in places by the travel of oxen and the pioneer two-wheel wagon, is now almost obliterated in the more level surfaces, but it is far more direct between the still house and the church.

LITTLE TOM'S GRAVE

According to an article in a recent issue of The National Republic, the grave of Thomas Lincoln, Jr., infant brother of Abraham and Sarah Lincoln, has been definitely located near the martyred President's early home in Kentucky. The article was written by Captain Francis Marion Van Natter, a student of Lincoln history and affairs. He states in part:

"Standing on a bleak hill side, a raw January wind blowing the smoke from the bowl of his briar pipe, James M. Taylor quietly told me in simple, direct sentences, a story of the greatest interest to Lincoln's millions of admirers. Said Mr. Taylor: 'I was foreman of some relief workers doing script work for the government. We got groceries with the money. We were working around in the Redmond burying ground, and I was working near a walnut tree that was near the center of the graveyard. I was raking and hoeing just working around, when I found a gravestone laying down on top of the ground. I couldn't make out the letters very well so I went down in my pocket and got out a nail and scratched the letters. That made it

plainer to see. Then I set the stone back practically where I found it and then mounded up the grave.'

"We wondered whose stone it was,' he added. 'We all thought it was a Lincoln for we'd all heard that a Lincoln was buried there. My father had said his parents had said that. My father had owned that land back in 1888. My mother's name was Redmond—Jane Redmond. She was born right there by that graveyard—and she's buried right there.'

"Down on the old Lincoln Knob Creek farm, a half-mile from the cemetery, is the Lincoln Tavern, owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Chester F. Howard. There news of the day is discussed, and there in mid-summer of 1933, the finding of a headstone bearing the letters 'TL' was related. Several weeks later Mr. John J. Barry, the editor, was having dinner with the Howards. He, too, had often hunted for the grave of Lincoln's infant brother. Said Mr. Barry to me: 'Some one mentioned the finding of a rock out there and that it might be some Lincoln child for it had the initials 'TL' on it. Immediately it flashed into my mind that it was Abraham Lincoln's brother.'

"The succeeding days were busy, interesting ones for Mr. Barry. Carefully, logically he pieced together all available records and traditions pertaining to the Lincoln family in the Knob Creek locality. And at last he came to the conclusion that the tiny grave was the final resting place of Thomas Lincoln, Jr., infant brother of the President.

"Descendants of the Knob Creek country pioneers will tell you it is fairly certain that George Redmond carried the hand-made coffin along the trail back in the hollow, holding on to the brush and saplings as he climbed the steep craggy side of Muldrauch's Hill. There is the tradition that Nancy Hanks Lincoln with her nine year old daughter, and her seven year old son, Abraham, just before moving to Indiana in 1816, likewise picked her way along that trail and climbed that rugged hillside, seeking out Baby Tom's grave.

"For more than a century the tomb was lost. And then James M. Taylor, great-grandson of George Redmond, found the tiny grave on Decoration Day, the day set aside as sacred to the memory of those who answered the call of the Great Emancipator, the revered brother of Baby Tom."

Grandview Names

Weesoe Wusapinuk
Yellow Banks
Sandy Creek Landing
Blount's Landing
New Hope Landing
Grandview

Investigator 1834

The present site of Grandview has at least six names—all collected from documentary history.

When the editor found the Indian name last April he determined to obtain the translation if possible, as all such Indian names have local meanings; and the search was rewarded last week. That it required some effort is attested by the following account:

"Wee-soe Wu-sa-pin-uk" is the Kickapoo Indian name left us by Joel Hardin, who was captured by the Indians near Bowling Green, Ky., and brought across the river here in 1792 and taken to Detroit, where he was sold to the British (Cockrum's Pioneer History of Indiana, page 274).

We had access to J. W. Powell's "The Hako Ceremony"—the corn ceremony of the Pawnees, and at the Rockport library we found "Hand Book of the American Indian," by W. F. Hodge; but neither of these revealed the object of our quest. Both are very valuable authorities from the U. S. Department of Ethnology. We also have found that the Bible, or portions of it, has been translated into thirty-two Indian dialects.

In the further hunt we have written the Department of Ethnology, Washington, D. C., state libraries at Indianapolis, Ind., Oklahoma City, Okla., and Topeka, Kas.; friends at Terre Haute, Ind., Oklahoma City, Okla., Brownsville, Texas, and nearly as many more references given by friends. But the final solution came from a friend in this county whose Indian name is "Ritchson," and who is one-eighth Cherokee. He wrote to a friend at Tah-le-quah, Okla., who gave the translation as follows:

Wee - soe Wu - sa - pin - uk
Tree yellow Big safe water bank
or "a yellow tree on the bank of big, safe water."

The next feature—does it fit the site? As northern writers place the crossing point of this trail at Rockport, the county seat, and the southern writers at the mouth of Blackford creek—and the two sites are five miles apart.

Mr. T. C. Basye, past president of the Spencer County Historical Society, and whose grand-father kept a store at New Hope, two and a half miles east of Grandview, between 1820 and 1830, says "It fits."

Basye has not only the family tradition but a personal knowledge of the actual site as it is today.

The river at this place has low banks on each side of the stream and the mouth of Big Sandy creek on the Indiana side is opposite the mouth of Blackford creek on the Kentucky side; and the stream can be safely crossed in a canoe or skiff at almost any time. Standing at the water's edge on the north side today a clear view of the stream can be seen for five miles in either direction. It is thought the yellow tree refers to the yellow cottonwood, as cottonwoods are growing very close to the water's edge today between the mouths of Big and Little Sandy creeks. It is said the yellow cottonwood can be easily split, but the white cottonwood needs to be split with a saw.

Yellow Banks

"Yellow Banks" is the earliest pioneer name known and is undoubtedly a contraction of the Indian name and does not refer to the color of the soil or earth.

Sandy Creek Landing.

With the advent of the steamboats and the fueling from the Murphy wood yard, between Big and Little Sandy creeks, the site became known at "Sandy Creek Landing."

Blount's Landing.

About 1840 Thompson Blount beached his store boat on the west side of Big Sandy creek, near Grandview's present Main street, and the pioneers called the place "Blount's Landing."

New Hope Landing.

And when a postoffice was established at New Hope, two and a half miles northeast of Grandview and on high land, in the little settlement about the Basye store site, about 1842, this site became known at "New Hope Landing."

Grandview

But the name of New Hope Landing did not long survive as the postoffice was moved to Grandview about

1853, and guests at the home of Alfred Lamar had often commented upon the grand view from the portico of his home; and Grandview it is today.

Such is the nomenclature and history of the various names for the site of Grandview. We wonder if any other community in the county has as many names or dates back as far with any name?

If you enjoy research work, will you please find for us the translation of these Indian names for the Ohio river:

Wyandottes — "O-he-zuh-ye-an-de-wa."

Delawares—"Pal-a-wa-the-pec."

We have found the Iroquois name to be "Ohionhiio," meaning beautiful river.

The French called it "La Belle Riviere," meaning beautiful river.

The Shawnee name is "Kis-ke-ba-la-se-pe," meaning eagle river.

Since the above was put in type we have a hint of more features of interest. A letter from the Superintendent of the Shawnee Agency, at Shawnee, Okla., gives a hint that it might, in part, refer to "coon trail," but the Kickapoos at that place are not agreed upon the meaning of the "Weesoe Wusapinuk."

Lincolnia

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WANTED—Old copies of Rockport Herald or Sentinel containing Lincoln history. Will give one dollar each for the loan of acceptable copy.—The Monitor, Grandview.

Revamping Lincoln History.

The portrayal of Lincoln affairs seemingly has been much jungled and mixed, not only as regards that portion of the history of the family spent in this county but also in other places.

Research efforts have been continued in this county for several years in the task of ascertaining the correct version and the effort is meeting with some success. It has been made much harder by the publicity given many statements that seemingly now must be discarded, and this fact is responsible for the demand that all new versions be well sustained with documentary proof. It is quite fitting that much of this work should be done by Spencer county people; and Mrs. Bess V. Ehrman and Mr. George H. Honig, of Rockport, have contributed much, as have others in days past: Rev. J. Ed Murr, Rev. Hobson, Gen. J. S. Veatch, etc. However there is much yet to be done before posterity can have the kind of a story it should have.

The matter of ancestry has been assailed from many angles but much has been discarded when brought in comparison with unimpeachable documentary evidence. The same can be said of his parentage, but most Lincoln students now concede that his parents were of the same noble worth as other great names in American history.

It has also been claimed that neither his father nor mother could read or write, but this has been proven untrue. It has also been stated that his father was shiftless,

and yet documentary proof discloses that Thomas Lincoln had a very good set of carpenter tools when living in Kentucky and the character of his workmanship in this county would infer that he possessed an equally good set here. That he was a good manager must be conceded by the proof that he gained possession of one hundred sixty-four acres of land in this county and accumulated while ten of the fourteen years were "hard times." There may have been days of penury and privation, but many families today are having the same experience; and we doubt not that these days of the family's need have been over emphasized by some folks.

That the boy, Abraham, was industrious and a good worker is evidenced by numerous folk today as they repeat what they have heard from their ancestors and by such documentary evidence as has escaped the ravages of time.

That Abe was exceptionally studious is beyond all question and surely made the best of the limited educational resources within reach as is proven by his qualifying for the position of assistant surveyor with six weeks of study soon after going to Illinois. He may have evaded work on his father's farm to study a book but it is highly improbable that he would have done likewise when working for others. Other documentary evidence and his later life do not sustain such "stealing of time" from others.

Just this week we have learned of documentary evidence in the old Rockport Herald, published 1843 to 1845, and seen in the collection gathered by Capt. Charles S. Finch. There may be other collections stored away in some attic and The Monitor will give one dollar for the loan of each acceptable copy brought or sent to this office. The Herald and its successor, The Sentinel, likely had much of historical interest for historians of today and we will make it a little bit interesting for any one who can find such copies to loan us.

The Finch collection of papers was destroyed by fire some years ago.

GRANDVIEW, IND., MONITOR
Thursday, October 11, 1934

SANDY CREEK LANDING

Not only were the Ray families the first permanent settlers, but Ezekiel Ray made the first entry of land in October, 1811, and its eastern limit is within the present town of Grandview.

Ezekiel Ray came from Ireland as a small lad and it is claimed that he, with his sons, William, James, David and Thomas, met up with the Lamars as far away as Duck river, on the lower border of Tennessee, and there married Jerusha Ray, and came with them through Tennessee and Kentucky, but the Lamars remained in the "Lewis Bottoms" and did not enter Indiana Territory with the Rays.

Three Lamar brothers came from Anjou, France, and it is claimed they had a coat-of-arms in France. One brother went south from Virginia and it is his descendants that came into Indiana Territory. Uriah Lamar married Hannah Morton Powell somewhere on the journey between Virginia and northern Kentucky. Robert S. Lamar, a son of W. S. Lamar, has collected this material from authoritative sources in New York and Washington and has passed the information on to the writer.

The year of 1809 must have been a wet one for the reason that tradition gives that many prospective settlers were driven out of the Lewis Bottoms by the flood waters and they came into Indiana Territory and the Murphys claim that their business was good from that time onward—they undoubtedly had a flatboat ferry at this time; and soon another boost in their business was to come. The first steamboat on the Ohio river would appear the next year, and it would burn cordwood.

The next entries of land at Sandy Creek Landing, formerly called Yellow Banks, were by Uriah Lamar and Kelton Murray in March, 1812, and their race to Vincennes is a matter of history (Hist. W. S. & P. Cos., page 263); Ezekiel Ray in May, 1814; James and Samuel Hammond in October, 1814; James Kellams in April, 1816; William Kelley, Sr. and Jr., in May, 1816; the Hammonds again in 1817 and in 1818; and Joseph Nelson, Daniel Grass and D. C. Lane in 1818. Grass and Lane did not settle upon their entries, however. These are the records of early land entries by settlers at Weesoe Wusapinuk, later known as Sandy Creek Landing. It is claimed that William Black came here in 1809 but no land entry of his is found in the neighborhood.

It may be that the use of the name of Sandy Creek Landing began in the year of 1809 for the reason that so many people came across here that year, or it may have been later. No definite date has yet been found in documentary history.

The spring of 1811 brought another excitement to Yellow Banks or the Sandy Creek Landing. Indians had murdered some of the Meeks family, who were living on Pigeon creek to the west, and Chief Settetah was captured and brought to the home of 'Squire Lamar for trial, but was murdered by a guard before the trial was held (Hist. W. S. & P. Cos., page 251). This episode was the cause for a petition to be sent to the governor praying for the organization of a company of militia between the mouths of Honey and Deer creeks, so the members would not need to go so far for drill duty (Hist. Indiana National Guard, page 50). In the autumn of that year two citizens of this neighborhood went to the Battle of Tippecanoe: William Black came back with a wounded knee, and Samuel Sands was killed.

Samuel Lamar made his first entry of land west of the present Newtonville in 1811. September of this year is said to be the date of the big hurricane that leveled the forest from near Honey creek to near the mouth of Anderson creek, and gave to the region its first name of Hurricane township.

In March, 1812, came the excitement of the race of Kelton Murray and Uriah Lamar to Vincennes for land entries (Hist. W. S. & P. Cos., page 263); and Lamar persuaded Murray to permit him prior entry to the land office. Ben Lamar came over from Kentucky this same year and cut his way through the "hurricane" to the home of Sam Lamar, where he later entered land.

The year of 1813 appears to have been a quiet year as there were no land entries and no other matter of historical importance recorded; but next year brought additional land entries and the first known domestic disturbance.

William Ray, one of the older sons of Ezekiel Ray, had built a home in what is now West Grandview, west of the block house site, and this house had a stone chimney; and in November,

1813, a son was born and named Abel. Some time during the year of 1814 his mother became much dissatisfied with the home life and one day the father came home to find his infant son upon the bed and the pigs running about the room; and it was learned that the boy's mother, Lucinda McLain Ray, had departed for the home of her parents in Kentucky. There was another son born to Mrs. Ray, a full brother of Abel, and this son grew to manhood and became a professor in a Florida college and has written a history of the early Ray family which the Indiana Rays would like to see. Abel Ray was raised by his grandmother along with her daughter, Elizabeth (born, January, 1813), and some folks have

called them brother and sister. Abel Ray never saw his brother, William, in so far as is known.

During this year, also, came a family through Sandy Creek Landing that later would do much business at Sandy Creek Landing and be much mentioned because of the affiliations with the Lincoln family. Reuben Grigsby, living near Bardstown, Ky., married Nancy Barker at Bardstown (Marriage Register No. 1) and is said to have come into this section with Thomas V. Anderson and others and Grigsby settled about twelve miles from Sandy Creek Landing and entered land in January, 1816. He became a extensive buyer and shipper of produce and a manufacturer of whisky.

And the tide of travel kept increasing and the Murphys made money with their ferry and woodyard business, though no documentary record has been found specifically naming them as the owners and operators of the ferry at this important trail crossing, though the flatboat ferry is mentioned by several writers in connection with the crossing of the largest caravan—the Lincoln caravan in the late autumn of 1816.

SANDY CREEK LANDING

The year of 1815 has not very much in history of the activities at Sandy Creek Landing but from the writings of Mr. George H. Honig is found the statement that Rev. John Wilborn resigned as pastor of the Yelvington (Ky.) Baptist Church and came across into this section of the Indiana Territory and began the organization of a new church near the present site of Gentryville that soon resulted in the formation of the Little Pigeon Baptist Church of the later Lincoln neighborhood. This is ample proof the growth of the settlement near the future location of the Lincoln family.

The year of 1816 was the summerless year of history and the following reprint from the Danville, Ill., News was found in a Monitor of August 8, 1901. Danville is at least 150 miles north of Grandview.

From Monitor of August 8, 1901
"The Danville, Ill., News, with a thoughtfulness that cannot be too highly commended, recalls the summer of 1816 to the memory of its old subscribers, and gives some interesting facts concerning the meteorological conditions which then prevailed in these parts.

"If the recollections of the News are not at fault, and it seems to think they are not, that summer can not, strictly speaking, be said to have ever set in. Along in April, when the garden should have been exhibiting signs of active life, the snow on the ground was from four to six feet deep, and frozen solid for half its

depth. In May only the surface of it had melted and the ground could not be reached for planting purposes except by tunneling. In June the snow had disappeared, but the ground was still frozen hard, and along the latter part of that month another fall occurred which made sleighing good in Danville and vicinity for several days.

"On the morning of July 4 water froze in the wells and pitchers of the early settlers, and there was excellent skating on the neighboring ponds. Snow fell toward noon, and the usual Independence Day exercises were held in a church warmed by blazing log fires, and were participated in by men and women in mid-winter clothing.

The spring, when it came in reality, was so short and severe that no vegetation could thrive in it. In August the corn, which had struggled against adverse circumstances, went to tassel so early that it was useless except as fodder. Corn from other parts of the country brought unheard of prices, and for seed to be used in the spring of 1817 farmers were obliged to provide themselves with the corn grown in 1815. All bread-stuffs went up, and flour a year afterward sold for \$17 a barrel"

It would appear from tradition, however, that some Sandy Creek Landing settlers raised some corn this cold summer as Ezekiel Ray had to move some corn the following January to get it away from the flood water of the Ohio river.

And this was the year that Thomas Lincoln brought his family from Hodgenville, Ky., over the well traveled trail known as the Bardstown, Hardinsburg and Shawneetown Trail, which crosses the Hartford, Ky., and Vincennes Trail near Yelvington, Ky., and the latter trail crosses the Ohio river at this site. Here was the flatboat ferry mentioned by both Brackett and Barrett, though they do not mention the site of the ferry definitely (both page 22). Tradition states that this was the largest party or caravan that had crossed the river here up to that time and it was said to have been composed of fifteen families and one or two single travelers. Some of our friends assert this statement is also sustained by documentary evidence but the writer has not yet been able to find it. The names of eleven of these families have been found in tradition, as follows: Elijah Proctor, Joe Smith, Tom Smith, David Gordon, Perry Davis, Benjamin Davis, John Pittman, Davis Enlow, Hardin Cain, Thomas Carter, and Thomas Lincoln, and William Barker, a single traveler who came to visit his sister, Mrs. Reuben Grigsby.

This Lincoln caravan passed thru Sandy Creek Landing to settle on the hills to the north, but the Lincolns will be at the Landing quite often as long as they remain in southern Indiana; and it is claimed in tradition that Thomas Lincoln helped the Rays to move their corn to get it out of the reach of flood water from the Ohio river in January, 1817.

This year of 1817 is also the date of another one of those uses of the trail from the river to the Lincoln

farm site by more than one family and mentioned in undisputable documentary history. Rev. John Richardson came with others from Nelson county, Ky., making the journey down the river in a flatboat (Hist. Warrick, Spencer and Perry Counties, page 482) and leaving the river at the site of the present town of Grandview and settling at Lincoln City. The names of the families coming with him appear to be lost in both documentary and traditional history, but the citation does prove the open and used trail.

The year of 1818 brought illness and deaths among the settlers at the Landing. From family records it is learned that Ezekiel Ray died some time during this year and also Catherine Prosser, daughter of Jonathan C. and Christine Simmons Prosser, who had come from New York state a few months before; and also Joshua Samuel Hammond, father of Samuel D. Hammond, who came here in 1811 (Lake's Atlas, page 13); and James G. Hammond, father of James Hammond, died the next year (Ibid) and this family came here in 1809.

In the Lincoln neighborhood occurred the deaths of Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Brooner from the "milk sick," and this may have caused some of the deaths at the Landing.

It is said in tradition that another caravan crossed here in 1818 and was the second largest up to that time, and was composed of the Young, Barker and Cooper families (all related) from the vicinity of Bardstown, Ky., and some Mason families from near Elizabethtown, Ky. They came overland on the above mentioned trail and crossed the river here; but the number of persons in this caravan is unknown in either documentary or traditional history. Samuel and Richard Mason are mentioned in the 1820 census report, but William Barker is not, though he was the first military officer appointed in the county—with title of colonel (see obituary in Rockport Empire. Authority for the Masons coming in 1818 is found in the obituary of Laura Mason Lamar, Monitor of January 16, 1902).

Spencer county was formed from parts of Perry and Warrick and became organized in January, 1818, and taxes on land in 1818 were \$1.00 on 100 acres of first rate land; 87½ cents per 100 acres of second rate land; and 50 cents on 100 acres of third rate land (Cockrum's Pioneer Hist. Indiana, page 397).

From copies of old papers brought in by A. A. Lamar, grandson of Uriah Lamar, and published in The Monitor January 27, 1921, the statement can be made that Uriah Lamar was a Justice of the Peace, or 'squire, from about 1808 to at least 1820; and in these copies it is quite likely that Taylor Basye, Richard Wilbern and Thomas Morton were here at the time of the 1820 census report for the reason that they are mentioned in commercial papers of that year; and Mr. Basye's name appears in an order on 'Squire Lamar of December 10, 1820.

SANDY CREEK LANDING

Before the organization of the county, from parts of Perry and Warrick in January, 1818, there were enough settlers that commercial activity is mentioned in history. Ben Lamar had a "corn cracker mill" at the site of the old block house, west of the present Newtonville, before 1820 (Hist. W. S. & P. Cos., page 263), Uriah Lamar also had one near his home and James Morton had a water mill on Honey creek at about the same time (Ibid). Tradition gives their order as stated with the Ben Lamar mill in operation not later than 1814. Taylor Basye started a store with a \$300 stock of goods at New Hope about 1821, and Thomas Morton had a like store northwest of the present Grandview not much later (Ibid). It is a queer co-incident that neither of these men are mentioned in the 1820 census report, although Thomas Morton was a judge of an election in Hurricane township in August, 1817 (Ibid, page 246), and Taylor Basye was one of the voters at the Carter township election of August, 1819 (Ibid, page 272).

It is unknown to the author just when the business of flatboating started at this site, but it must have been early—no definite date is found. It is quite likely that the Rays and Murphys were the first to start in the flatboat business, and quite likely before 1820; but between 1820 and 1830 it had become quite a business and participated in by the Rays, Romiers, Murphys and Millers, and likely others, and Reuben Grigsby patronized some of them. (See Cockrum, page 402, 508 and 510 for additional information on flatboating.)

SANDY CREEK LANDING

Jan 3 1819 25 km
If it be true that the year of 1818 brought the first deaths from disease to the citizens of Yellow Banks or Sandy Creek Landing, it was also the year of the first marriages to be recorded on the Spencer county records and the Pellow Banks community was represented by William Powell to Sophy Miller, who were married by 'Squire George Huffman March 20; Samuel Lamar to Anna Miller were married by 'Squire John Shrode July 30; Abraham Springston to Elizabeth Shrode by 'Squire John Shrode August 31; Peter Lahue to Elizabeth Mitchell by 'Squire John Shrode September 10; Robert Hammond to Catherine Thurman October 17 by 'Squire James Hammond; and George R. Thurman to Sarah Shrode March 28, 1819, by 'Squire Shrode.

These records are interesting for the fact that they prove the presence of these folks in the community and also, who were the Justices of the Peace. Other justices in the county in 1818 were, according to the marriage license record, Samuel Bristow, Andrew Crawford; and in 1819 Matthew Young, J.P.; Young Lamar, Baptist clergyman, and John Garrison, an Elder in the Christian Church.

Further mention of the Barker caravan is withheld for the present, pending additional verification.

Previously, it has been stated that it is unknown just when the name changed from Yellow Banks to Sandy Creek Landing. Officially, it is known as Yellow Banks at late as 1840—see History of Warlick, Spencer and Perry Counties, by Goodspeed, page 284—in the quotation as follows: "Eli Overlin became (tax) collector in 1838. Stephen D. Ross was granted a license for a ferry four and a half miles below Rockport. John A. Stuteville was a Three Per Cent. Commissioner. He was succeeded by Daniel Brown. John Herron was granted a license for a ferry at 'Yellow Banks.' William May was assessor in 1840, and Thos. Blair (tax) collector. William Burroughs was licensed to keep a ferry at 'Yellow Banks' in lieu of Herron."

This quotation gives rather definite testimony that Yellow Banks was not at Rockport, nor below that place. And the name of Sandy Creek Landing is documentary from an old Monitor.

John Burns married Eleanor Hammond May 19, 1821; and the ceremony was undoubtedly at Rockport because John Morgan, clerk of Spencer circuit court, officiated. Mrs. Burns was a sister of Samuel Hammond, and the young couple started house-keeping on the bank of Sandy creek within what is now the town limits of Grandview. Mrs. Burns found that a deer was jumping the rail fence and eating her garden; so she drove some stakes into the ground and sharpened the upper end and in a few days had the deer impaled on them. That stopped the depredations and gave them some venison to eat. At another time she killed a fawn with a club, after the dogs had injured the creature.

(Continued next week.)

AN OPEN LETTER TO
SPENCER COUNTY CITIZENS
Jan 3, 1938 month

Under the FEKA Program of Indiana money has been appropriated for labor to build a Lincoln Pioneer Village at the City Park in the county seat at Rockport, Spencer county, Indiana. The City Council of Rockport and all business men's organizations approved and urged the building of this pioneer village but requested the Spencer County Historical Society to take the leadership, make the plans and assign to others the work to be done in such a project. In a called meeting of the society on December 17 the members voted to take the leadership in this great undertaking.

We want every man, woman and child in our county to feel that they should help and have an interest in this work. Each one shall be given an opportunity to contribute to the fund if only a penny or five cents. As this village is to be built, let us build it right and for all time. When built, it will maintain itself by the small charge of admittance from those who come to visit it.

We are able to make a place in Spencer county equal to Spring Mill Park or Harrodsburg, Kentucky, if we all help the cause. Our county has the honor of being the home for fourteen years of one of the world's greatest men, Abraham Lincoln, and our county seat, Rockport, played an important role in his life, which we are now able to reproduce in this pioneer village; so let every citizen give his bit to the movement. A year ago we were given the opportunity to do this thing but for lack of proper support it failed. Again the state makes the offer and this time we must not let the offer pass us.

Mr. George Honig's plans are drawn; logs have been donated by generous citizens, and there are now 988 logs in the City Park ready to begin the cabins, and more are being hauled daily. Money is needed for hardware, lime, cement, and other material; so when you are called upon to donate, please respond, however small the gift, and your name shall be recorded among those to be placed in one of the buildings. Every club and organization in our county shall be requested to assist this movement; so please be ready.

Signed: Bess V. Ehrmann, Pres.

Spencer County Hist. Soc.,

Laura Mercy Wright, Secy.,

U. S. Lindsey, Treasurer.

ROCKPORT PIONEER VILLAGE

Grand View June 27, 1935

Attorney General Philip Lutz, Jr., will deliver the principal address and his subject will be "The Fourth of July in Lincoln's Time and Today." He finds the first observance of the day in Indiana was in 1822. Judge Roscoe Kiper, of Boonville, will also speak and his subject will be "The Lincolns in Spencer County."

Rockport is expecting one of the largest crowds even within her borders next Thursday. It will be some big crowd to do it. Ask some of the "old timers" about 1876.

Grandview will have for its float a flatboat scene appropriate to the Lincoln period. Raymond Balser, one of the very few men of flatboat days, will superintend the construction and pilot the boat. Watch for it in the parade.

Rockport's Fourth of July activities was well presented in the Sunday edition of the Evansville Courier. We do not know what more could be said.

Pack your food basket and go to Rockport next Thursday. It is very likely that some friend or relative will be looking for you there.

Spencer County

Lincolnia

ABE LINCOLN, THE HOOSIER SCHOOL BOY

Charles T. Baker.

"Abe Lincoln's formative years were lived in Spencer county, Ind." He came during his seventh year and when he left Spencer county he was soon to step into attainments and responsibilities of which he never dreamed, or at least the world has no knowledge of such dreaming. One of these attainments was the position of assistant surveyor, near New Salem, Illinois. Later he became a lieutenant of militia in the Black Hawk war, and still later a legislator, congressman and president. A new and diligent search into his Spencer county training may not be amiss.

So much has been written about Lincoln's Hoosier education that it would appear that further attempts were useless, but when authentic facts are found that appear to be not generally known and even missed in some manner by Abe in his own autobiography it apparently gives some room for another version. If one will carefully compare the accepted versions of his Hoosier education with his work and attainments after leaving the state at the age of twenty-one there will be found an apparent gap, or else he was, indeed, a prodigy far beyond bounds set by some writers. Yet, in tradition it is learned that his unusualness was the great desire to learn.

Abraham Lincoln's continued education in Illinois was but the outgrowth of the start he obtained in the Hoosier state.

If the three subscription schools gave him all of this start and fired his ambition to the great attainments later developed, then these schools should receive much greater prominence than heretofore given. If there were other influences the world should know something of them.

Soon after his mother, Mrs. Nancy Hanks Lincoln, died the first building of the Little Pigeon Baptist Church (known locally as Old Pigeon) was erected near his home. The organization was started in 1815 by Rev. John Waldron (Honig papers), a former pastor of the Yelvington, Ky., Baptist Church, with the assistance of Rev. Thomas Downs; and in

1819 the building was erected (Hist. W., S. & P. Cos., page 426) and Abe and his father, Thomas Lincoln, assisted in the construction. Rev. John Richardson, Rev. Young Lamar and Rev. Peter Brooner lived in the immediate neighborhood at the time it was built.

And in this church building was held the first subscription school attended by Sarah and Abe Lincoln in Indiana; and if tradition can be relied upon it was a very short distance from their home. This school was held very soon after the church was built and James Bryant was the teacher (Hist. W. S. P. Cos., page 410 and 412), and Abe was one of his pupils. According to tradition, this James Bryant was one of the best teachers that taught in that early day in the county. This school was undoubtedly held very soon after the arrival of the new step-mother of the children, certainly not before. This school was one of the first to be taught in the county (Ibid, chapter VIII), and the writer has found no reason for its being ignored by Abe or others. Mr. Bryant was a fine character, as well as a qualified school teacher, according to tradition.

Azel W. Dorsey, later a coroner in the county (Ibid, page 278) was the next teacher to conduct a school near the Lincoln home, which Sarah and Abe attended, and it was about a mile and a half away (Herndon & Weik, Vol. I, page 31). The same authority states that Abe was ten years of age when he attended this school and the writer thinks he was in his tenth year.

The writers of the History of Warlick, Spencer and Perry Counties think Abe attended a school taught near the Lincoln home in Carter township in which Bryant, Crawford and likely Pierce were teachers (see page 410) and also a school taught by Joab Hungate (page 409); and make explicit statements that Abe attended schools taught by Bryant, Dorsey and Crawford. Herndon & Weik state that Abe attended Crawford's school when he was fourteen years of age; and the Hist. W. S. & P. Cos. infers this school was taught

in 1822, or when Abe was in his thirteenth year.

While more can be found in history about the Crawford school than others, it need not be taken too much for granted that other teachers confined their efforts strictly to "the three Rs." It was in Crawford's school that "manners were taught" and it may have been that others of the teachers taught subjects in addition to "the three Rs" (Herndon & Weik, Vol. I, page 31, 35. It was in the Crawford school that Abe began to write upon current subjects in both prose and verse.

The last known school attended by Abe in Spencer county was taught by Sweeney (some give the first name as John, and others state Will or James) about four years after the Crawford school and it was some four miles from his home and his attendance was irregular (H&W, page 33).

After the attendance at the Crawford school the writer thinks Abe began that long, self-appointed task of obtaining his own education from all sources within his reach. The known books that Abe borrowed and more or less completely mastered are (Warren's Concise Biography) the Bible, Pilgrim's Progress, Aesop's Fables, Weem's Washington, and Weem's Marion, Ramsey's Washington, Scott's Lessons, Columbia Class Book, and the Kentucky Perceptor. But this is not a complete list of the books Abe obtained and read for, according to tradition, he borrowed from "neighbors twenty miles away." Hence, the complete list will never be known for the reason that those

who loaned have passed away and the grand-children do not remember the titles—only the fact that Abe borrowed some books from their ancestors.

As to the character of some of the men of the Lincoln neighborhood: three preachers have been mentioned; there were also Col. William Barker, the first county colonel of militia (Barker obituary); County Commissioner Thomas Carter; 'Squires William Stark and Samuel Bristow; such business men as Reuben Grigsby, John Romine, William Woods, Josiah Crawford, William Jones and others; various itinerate school teachers and preachers of various faiths were often in the community. Farther away was 'Squire Pate, opposite the mouth of Anderson creek in Kentucky, Daniel Grass, member of the Constitutional Convention, legislator and county officer, John Huffman, the miller on Anderson creek, Ben Lamar, a miller, and Constable David Turnham, living on the side trail to Yellow Banks, now Grandview, Taylor Basye, the merchant at New Hope, 'Squire Uriah Lamar, near Yellow Banks, Lawyer John Pitcher at Rockport; and the list is not yet complete for the radius named. Some of these men are known to have helped Abe in his education and it is undoubtedly true that each one was a personal acquaintance and gave him more or less assistance.

And on "drill days," when a portion of the county militia gathered not far from his home at least four times a year, Abe would come in contact with numerous Revolutionary War veterans and others of military

knowledge; and it is undoubtedly true that he was present at most of these drill days after he was fifteen years of age, and his presence was enforced after his eighteenth birthday or he was fined (Territorial Law in Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 21 pages 390 to 425). It is likely that at these times he received his rudiments of military training that led to his selection as a lieutenant in the Black Hawk war.

A factor that may have been of vast importance and that caused Abe to aspire to the study of law is that his brother-in-law, Aaron Griesby, had two years tutorage in a law school "somewhere in the East" before his marriage to Sarah Lincoln. There is no direct proof for the assertion, but it is a reasonable inference. His access to the Statutes of Indiana, at David Turnham's, and the reading of law at 'Squire Pate's, in Kentucky, and the calls at John Pitcher's law office at Rockport were undoubtedly after Aaron's return from school. He attended court at Rockport and Boonville.

But where did Abe get his training in arithmetic higher than the simple subscription school "figgers"? If he obtained it when clerking in the Jones' store at Gentryville it is not a matter of record; and the same can be said of his contacts with other business men of ability of his neighborhood: except for a lead the writer stumbled upon last year.

Mrs. Belle Blair Raaff, a granddaughter of James Blair and a grand-niece of John Jones, brothers-in-law of the Lincoln neighborhood, told of Abe's coming to the home of her grand-father of nights to study. "When the dogs barked after supper grand-father knew Abe was coming to study; and he blazed a trail from his home to that of grand-father's so he would not miss the way," said Mrs. Raaff. Then followed a hunt to learn if Mrs. Raaff's statements would tally with documentary, and it was learned that James Blair entered land at the place of her description; that his father, Thomas A. Blair was a Revolutionary War pensioner and a county tax collector in 1840, and other contacts were found save the marriage of James Blair to Lucy Woods; and folks who have known Mrs. Raaff from girlhood vouch for her reliability with historical statements. Blair was good at arithmetic and was a fine "scribe;" and here is undoubtedly where Abe received his training in mathematics to enable him to master surveying with six weeks of intensive study under an old school teacher.

However much we may think that Abe's Hoosier education was meager and local advantages very poor we must admit that when he left the state at the age of twenty-one he had received mental training to permit him to take up and continue any branch he chose. The fundamentals were, without doubt, obtained here in Spencer county. His later life

3-14-35

~~Grandview~~ ~~Monitor~~

LINCOLN SCHOOLMATE CLUB

Suggested by the reading of the McGuffey Club notes, by J Roy Strickland in the Evansville Courier, the editor of The Monitor submits the formation of a club among the descendants of those persons who attended school with Abraham Lincoln when he lived in Indiana. Let persons who will enroll send a letter telling the relationship of their ancestor and the school attended with Abe, and perhaps, Sarah Lincoln, together with such interesting story or stories you remember of hearing. The Monitor will be pleased to publish such enrollment and letters. Who will be the first charter member of Abe's Hoosier School Club?

Lincolnia

General News Monitor 4-18-35

LINCOLN'S GROCERY RESTORED

Abraham Lincoln's partner in his New Salem grocery business, William Berry, always did calculate that Abe was a right smart young fellow. But if any of the local cracker-barrel philosophers had predicted in 1833 that 100 years later the little frame store would be restored to its original condition as a shrine to one of the nation's greatest heroes, he would have been joshed right out past the pickle barrel into the February mud.

Yet such a forecaster would have had the last laugh. Every detail of the building, equipment, and stock of merchandise has been restored just as it was in 1833, and the Lincoln-Berry emporium stands today on its original site, a flash-back into the crude everyday life of Lincoln's early years.

A glance around the antique interior makes the modern housewife acutely conscious of the changes in the grocery business since those days. Barrels of flour, boxes of beans, sides of bacon, tubs of salt pork and other bulk goods were then the principal stock of trade. Convenient sanitary packages were but little known, and there were few brand names to guarantee either Lincoln or his customers that they would get a known quality of merchandise when they gave an order. The old bookkeeping records show the only packaged and advertised food product in the store was a brand of cocoa whose "Chocolate Girl" trademark is still a familiar figure today.

The Old Salem-Lincoln League of Petersburg, Ill., is responsible for restoring and maintaining the archaic grocery where Lincoln spent his twenty-fourth birthday 102 years ago. Years of painstaking research were necessary to establish the authenticity of each item in the store. Some of the pieces of furniture and equipment were reclaimed from antique shops and neighborhood homes. Stocks of the bulk merchandise were easily obtainable. The greatest difficulty came when the league tried to obtain some of the 1833 model cocoa cans. A solitary old daguerreotype in the files of the Dorchester, Mass., manufacturer was the only clue as to what the package even

looked like. Eventually it was necessary to have modern reproductions of the can made from this photograph in order to make the restored shelf complete.

History records that this grocery business failed to make any money. Doubtless its failure added somewhat to Lincoln's store of knowledge gained by experience. Business was not Lincoln's forte, and he soon found it out. Later in the profession of law his income rose to fair size for a country lawyer. But politics attracted him from the law. It took his time, his money, his absorbing interest, because questions involving the nation's very existence were involved in it.

Back of Lincoln's far-sightedness in the presidency, back of his sympathy with and knowledge of the common people, lay the days of his early life, days of poverty, of trying experiences. Every place in which he lived and wrought has become historic. The restoration of the log grocery store at New Salem is important because Lincoln once trod its wide floor and served groceries from its shelves and barrels. Though the village of New Salem is gone, disintegrated long since, the brief stay of Lincoln in its little store make it historic ground.—A clipping from the Winfield, Kas., Courier sent to J. Roy Strickland by a friend in Minnesota.

Yes, and near Grandview is standing a log house that Abe Lincoln and his father both helped build, and Abe danced with the local girls at the "house warming." It was erected in the year of 1827.—Editor.

GRANDVIEW SITE HISTORY

Mon. 5-9 1935

The Second Largest Caravan.

The caravan accompanying the Lincoln family was the largest of its kind to cross the river at this site in the early pioneer days, according to all evidence read by the writer; and the second largest crossed at this ferry site on this pioneer highway in 1818, according to tradition. It came from the same neighborhood in Kentucky as that first large caravan and was composed of families of the Masons, Youngs, Coopers and Barkers. The Barker, Young and Cooper families came from Bardstown and the Masons from Elizabethtown.

The date of 1818 is attested by the documentary evidence found in the obituary of Laura Mason Lamar in *The Monitor* of January 16, 1902. It states that she came with her parents at the age of seven, and she was born October 29, 1811. And that her parents located near the site of Dale.

From tradition it was learned that her known brothers were John and William, but who were her parents? No one appeared to know and the obituary did not state their names.

According to tradition, the other families coming at that time were William Barker and his two brothers-in-law, James L. Cooper and William Young; and there may have been more than one Mason family, as two are named in the 1820 census report Richard and Samuel. There may have been other families.

William Barker came from near Bardstown, Ky., with the Lincoln Caravan to visit his sister, Mrs. Reuben Grigsby, but came without his family. He returned to Bardstown and brought his family here in 1818, according to the family history; and the Youngs and Coopers undoubtedly came at the same time, though they are not mentioned in the 1820 census report. Neither is Barker.

Then came the hunt for the name of Laura Mason Lamar's father. It was quite a hunt; and terminated in a letter from Mrs. Mary Jane Scott, of St. Louis, Mo., a grand-niece of Mrs. Laura Mason Lamar. Other descendants did not know and there appeared to be no documentary contact.

Mrs. Scott is a grand-daughter of William Mason, Mrs. Lamar's brother, and taught school here years ago and some of older citizens attended her school. She is much interested in history—and always was. She is now past ninety years of age and has an excellent memory.

She gives us the Mason name as heard from her grand-mother, Mrs. "Polly" Richardson Powell Mason, whom she well remembers; and gives the names of her great-grand-father and grand-father as John Richardson and Floyd Mason. Mrs. Scott had an uncle named Floyd, and he had a cousin named William Floyd; so it appears reasonable that Floyd should have been the name of the elder Mason.

This Mason family was quite prominent in Colonial days, according to Mrs. Scott's letter, and George Mason, 4th, was very well known and participated in the deliberations of the Virginia Constitutional Convention and wrote the document known as its "Declaration of Rights." He did not sign it because it did not give the people the proper protection, and did not sign the Constitution (in 1787) because in his opinion it did sufficiently guard the safety of the states. George Mason, 4th, erected Gunston Hall, in Philadelphia, in 1755. He was the father of seven sons and four daughters.

William Mason, son of Floyd Mason, was elected to the state legislature from this locality in 1837, but became ill with pneumonia from exposure while loading a flatboat and died before taking his seat in that body. At that time he lived at the site of the home of Miss Elizabeth Harvey, in Grandview.

Laura Mason resided near Dale until her marriage to Alfred Lamar January 27, 1823, according to the obituary. It is quite evident that she spent the remainder of her life on the site of Grandview.

As the obituary of William Barker states he was the first colonel of militia in this county, he likely had some experience in the Revolutionary War; and he also lived in the Lincoln neighborhood.

"Hard Times" of 1820 to 1830 Again Definitely Verified

Newspaper — 5-23-35

In our hunt for Lincoln data and the conditions existing in this section during the Lincoln period of residence we have found much data of interest outside of Lincoln history. Among this class of data was the finding of the "hard times" period of 1820 to 1830 which extended on to a much later date.

Under date of May 17, 1935, the Indianapolis News has a story concerning the collection of "wild cat" money by John W. Holcomb, of Greensburg, Ind., who has a large amount of the worthless currency—worthless save for its historical value. In this article is stated that the beginning of inflated currency began while Indiana Territory existed and continued on through the organization of the state government and until as late as 1857, and gives reproductions of currency dating between May 10, 1815, on up to July 1, 1857.

The Bank at Vincennes was organized in 1814 and failed ten years later, and cost the United States government \$168,511.64; and was again reported "hopelessly insolvent" in 1833; and four years later the "great panic" swept the country. The federal government lost a neat sum but no one knows the amount lost by the citizens who were caught with its currency. And there were other banks that added to the financial catastrophe.

Beside the banks there were many other financial organizations issuing paper money, until the total amount must have run into the millions of dollars; and the article continues with the names of these organizations—Fort Wayne & Southern Rail Road Company, Indiana Manufacturing Company, The Cincinnati & Whitewater Canal Company, etc.

And metal cash was scarce during those days and its possession gave a distinct advantage in purchasing power because it was really worth something in stable values. Is it any wonder that such coins as were in circulation were soon cut into pieces to make change? Is it any wonder that barter was the chief medium of exchange for commodities in this section?

And why do we give this mention? Only for the reason that it goes with other documentary evidence to substantiate much of the tradition that has been collected by the editor of this paper.

OR, Grandview, Indiana, July 4, 1935.

**CHARLES T. BAKER IS
REAL LINCOLN HISTORIAN**

(By Ernest W. Owen, former president of the S. I. C. A.)

Scattered all over southwestern Indiana, in nearly every community, there lives some one who takes his history seriously and devotes many long hours in delving into old records, reading old letters, and thumbing through musty files of the various courts in looking for data and other papers, now yellow with age, to put together the history of by-gone days, and to get a first-hand picture of things as they existed in the long ago, which at that time were not thought of sufficient importance to put in order for the coming generation.

These historians have done excellent work, and to them comes the credit for finding many important fragments of history that would pass by unnoted were it not for the "eagle eyes" of these faithful men and women.

One of these men who has done yeoman work in this field is Charles T. Baker, editor of the Grandview Monitor. For years he has given tedious hours to this work, and he has not found it tiresome. To him it is a labor of love.

Through his paper, "The Grandview Monitor," he has, week in and week out, year in and year out, given its readers thousands of interesting bits of information about Abraham Lincoln, and others of his family, and many of the pioneers of our section of the state. He is careful and methodical, and, to the best of his ability, he will keep out the errors in the record.

His history column in The Monitor has been widely read, and the people of our section have much to thank Mr. Baker for because of his interest in Lincoln and other pioneers.

The work of Editor Baker is going to be very valuable when the Southwestern Indiana Civic Association play-writing contest gets under way. The material that he has prepared will be of assistance to the play writers in getting historical facts and names to use in the plays.

More power to Charles T. Baker. May he continue to do his history sleuthing, and to give his findings to the history minded people of Indiana. —Found in the Tell City News, the Booneville Enquirer, and the Winslow Dispatch, of last week. Grateful acknowledgements to Mr. Owen.—Editor of The Monitor.

RANDVIEW, INDIANA, THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1936.

EARLY HISTODY IN REVIEW

Augusta, Me., Feb. 23, 1936.

Mr. Charles T. Baker,
Grandview, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Baker: Thanks for The Monitor, which I assure you are read with great interest. I note you credit me with information about William Conner. Was John Conner a brother of William? I have before me an article about John Conner, published in The Rockport Journal in 1915 or 1916. It is in a series of articles written by Dixon Pennington, entitled "Bits of Spencer County History," and they ran through three numbers, and I clipped them. If they are not available for you I know they will interest you, so will undertake to copy them for you, if you do not have them. The one on John Conner states that "John Conner came to Spencer county about 1818 and lived on Corn Island two or three years. He then removed to Clay township and settled one mile south of Santa Fe near a spring, where Mt. Zion church now stands. The place was known as an old Indian camping ground by the early settlers, many relics being found there to prove this. . . . John Conner had more than an ordinary education for a man of his day. He had quite an interesting library of books, was well versed in history and the Bible, and was a very interesting talker. . . . His married Prudy Lahu and to this union were born four sons, Lahu, Abner, Bradford and Dow."

The writer well remembers Daw Conner, county commissioner. The article states that his father, John, also served in that capacity.

I have just noticed in another sketch on William Barker, Sr., in these papers, that Mr. Pennington states "William Barker was born in Nelson county, Ky., in 1795, came to Indiana in 1819, and settled in Clay township in 1831, where the town of Buffaloville now stands. He married Sally Crawford, a sister of Uncle Cyrus Crawford." It also gives the names of his ten children. Eight were boys, of whom six and the father voted for Lincoln, while two, Silas and Hardin, voted against Lincoln and opposed his Emancipation Proclamation.

Another item that will interest you, if you have not seen it, is one about John Romine. Mr. Pennington relates that he was born in Harrison county, Ind., and settled on a farm that he purchased from Noah Gordon about 1825. Though a Jackson Democrat he was a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln and said he was present when Lincoln's mother was buried. Other brief biographies are Noah Gordon, Cyrus Crawford, John Richardson, Thomas Smith, Jonathan Collier and Richard Rout.

If you have these, and I presume you have, you will not be interested. Continued congratulations on the good work you are doing.

Very truly yours

Elbert D. Hayford.

The above letter is full of interest to students of Lincoln Hoosier history. From the editor's fund of pioneer research it might be well to add the following comments:

"Uncle Cyrus Crawford" is undoubtedly none other than the Josiah Crawford, of Clay township, whose sister, Sally Crawford, was the wife of William Barker. Noah Gordon and Rev. John Richardson are the only ones of the above mentioned pioneers listed in the "heads of families" census report of 1820. There is an Ishmael Conner in this report but no John Conner; nor Thomas Smith, Jonathan Collier, John Romine or Richard Rout. This does not, however, mean they were not here, but rather that the 1820 census report may not have been thoroughly accurate. The editor has a number of documentary examples to prove that some pioneers were not listed. Prudy Lahu was likely the daughter of Peter Lahu, of Yellow Banks, also known as Sandy Creek Landing. The John Conner, Sr., may have been a brother of the Ishmael Conner. The notation of Commissioner John Conner and his library adds to the literacy of the Lincoln neighbors: being one not generally or publicly listed in local Lincolnia. The William Barker founded Barkerstown, the later Buffaloville in 1831, though he was in the county earlier and one of the early county commissioners. The notation that John Romine saw Mrs.

Lincoln buried leads to the belief that he was also in the county before 1820.

According to research, not all of those listed in the 1820 census report were heads of families, as Andrew Crawford's name appears and it is said that he was a bachelor and went to Missouri later and not married. We have not found any backing for the statement that Andrew and Josiah Crawford were related.

Other names that the editor has more than a hunch for thinking should appear in the 1820 census report are: Peter Broomer, Taylor Basye, Jacob Hanks, William Black, William Barker, Nicholas Lincoln, Francis Popey, Richard V. Horn, Nicholas Emmick, Hezekiah Harris, and others.

Grandview Known in Early Years by 7 Names; First Was Indian Weesoe Wusipinuk

GRANDVIEW, June 27.—(Special) Have you ever heard of Weesoe Wusapinuk?

You haven't? All right, how about these: Yellow Banks? Sandy Creek Landing? Blount's Landing. New Hope Landing?

Well, rather than continue with the lesson, we'll say that Spencer county school children of 1853 should have known the answers. Every name was previously the name of the town of Grandview. Which is a whole lot for a town of 588 population.

Grandview is chock full of pioneer history, as Charles T. Baker, editor of the Grandview Monitor for more than 30 years, will tell you. Baker recently started a new series of articles in his paper on the history of Grandview 125 years ago.

KNOWN IN 1791

Grandview as early as 1792 was known as Weesoe Wusapinuk—and Indian name meaning "yellow tree on banks of big, safe water"—and Yellow Banks. In 1814 it became known as Sandy Creek Landing; in 1845 as Blount's Landing; in 1848 as New Hope Landing, and, in 1853, it acquired its present name.

The first blockhouse was built in Grandview in the fall of 1807, the year after the family of Ezekiel Ray settled near the present town site. In 1811 the men living at Yellow Banks, compelled to go as far as Selvin (then Polk Patch) on compulsory drill days,

petitioned for the formation of a militia company. The petition read:

TO HIS "EXILENCY"

"To the honorable exilency of William H. Harrison, Governor of Indiana territory greeting:

"We the people do nommenate and work your honorable Body to apoynt Stephen Mapes as milleatary capton of this Company which you have presented before you may it please You exilence we labor under A very great disadvantage on the account of our appoynted place for militery exercise Which is a great distance from us and we can have a company from the mouth of honey creek to the mouth of deer creek which does not exceed twenty miles.

"Sir we measurably submit our capassity into your All mearciful protection hoping your exilence will remove the yoakes from our wearied necks so no more but subscribe ourselves your humble petishoners and Free Republicans."

Captain Mapes selected a drill ground nearer the center of the new company's section, likely at Troy, Baker writes. It was in the fall of that year that the battle of Tippecanoe was fought. A number of Yellow Bank men enlisted for the campaign under Harrison. The battle of Tippecanoe freed the territory of Indian claims and none ever bothered the whites in this section afterwards, Baker writes.

Grandview draws largely on agriculture for sustenance. It has, however, two industries, the Cadick Milling company and the Cadick Produce company. The produce company is one of the largest poultry concerns in this section. *Evansville Journal*

**HISTORICAL MARKERS
ERECTED BY STATE**

Two historical markers were placed on the highway east of town last week. One is placed on the old Hammond farm and reads as follows:

Hammond Farm

Site of Hammond Tannery

Visited by Abe Lincoln

During his residence in

Spencer County 1816-1830

The other one is near the Squier Felling Station and reads:

Grandview

Settled in 1808

Known as Sandy Creek Landing

Blounts Landing now Grandview

Platted 1851 Postoffice

Established 1854

The markers were obtained through the efforts of the officers of the Spencer County Historical Society, with the help of the Rockport Kiwanis Club and the approval of officers of the State Historical Society, and the construction and erecting was the activity of WPA and the State Highway Department. We are informed there were twelve such signs erected in the county.

These markers were obtained and erected without solicitation of local citizens and in direct response to the request of Mrs. Bess V. Ehrman, the president of the Spencer County Historical Society; and the editor of The Monitor extends thanks to Mrs. Ehrman for her kindly offices in securing these markers.

Grandview citizens are pleased with this recognition of the historical claims for this site and trust it may be the fore-runner of other historical markers erected by organizations or private enterprise. There are other site equally valuable in history that are entitled to like recognition.

YELLOW BANKS IS GRANDVIEW and YELLOW BANKS IS OWENSBORO

Grandview site Yellow Banks is a crossing point of the Ohio river and about fifteen miles from the Owensboro site Yellow Banks on the south side of the same river.

Histories state that the "yellow bank" was one mile long at the Grandview site and six miles long at the Owensboro site; and both sites undoubtedly took the name from this yellow bank condition.

Grandview site Yellow Banks is the designation for the crossing point of the Ohio river for the Hartford and Vincennes trail, at first an Indian trail and later a pioneer highway which Kentucky histories state is located at the mouth of Blackford creek, which is on the opposite river bank south of Grandview. This name is linked with the Indian name of Weesoe Wusapinuk (Yellow Banks) in historical mention with a dating of 1792. This trail was a north and south trail (locally, though a part of an east and west trail from Virginia to Oklahoma).

Owensboro site Yellow Banks is on the Bardstown, Hardinsburg and Shaweetown trail, an east and west trail. It was also known in early days as "Bad Yellow Banks," though no reason for such a name is given. It is also mentioned as a frontier post previous to 1794. The first white settler, William Smithers, located here not later than 1799 and perhaps earlier.

Grandview's Yellow Bank creek is definitely located by an English traveler of 1806 as about ninety miles below the mouth of Blue river and about eight miles above the first of a chain of six islands in the Ohio river. No Kentucky places or sites are mentioned by him between Blue river and Green river (below these islands) — not even the Owensboro Yellow Banks, a white settlement.

The first settlers at the Grandview site Yellow Banks were located here by the Territorial militia and ordered to build a block house in the late summer of 1807. This block house was opposite the mouth of Blackford creek (in Kentucky) and about one-fourth mile west of the mouth of the Yellow Bank creek (now known as Big Sandy creek).

Grandview Yellow Banks, the trail crossing, is mentioned in accounts of Indians bringing white prisoners into Indiana Territory in 1792 and on up to 1894. It is an ideal Indian crossing point as the hills are about an equal distance from the river on each side and there is a creek emptying into the river on each side of the stream. Tradition gives that white settlers and travelers crossed at this site as early as 1800 and went on to Vincennes.

Owensboro site Yellow Banks lies directly opposite one of the islands in the chain of six which contains about 200 acres. Some white settlers crossed the river at this site about 1808 or 1809 to settle in this county or section.

Yellow Banks was the name of the first postoffice at the Owensboro site (from about 1804 to 1835); and the Grandview site was on a mail route in 1817 but had no postoffice until about 1850—and then it was known as New Hope.

It is regrettable that these two points so near together should have the same names in early days and that historians should be confused as to the facts.

And over this Grandview site Yellow Banks came many pioneer families to settle in Indiana and Illinois, some of them in caravans or parties of some size, as the Lincoln caravan in late 1816 and the Mason-Barker caravan of 1818, which was next to the Lincoln caravan in size.

—Note. Historical citations have been left out of the above article for readability but can be easily supplied. Assistance has been given by Mrs. W. T. Mastin of Owensboro, Ky., and Miss Thelma M. Murphy of Indianapolis, for which the editor extends his thanks.

SANDY CREEK LANDING GREET'S THE LINCOLNS

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Note.—A letter from George H. Honig, Evansville, states that we should not forget to mention that, according to an interview with Betsy Ray Grigsby by J. M. Hobson in 1897, Daniel Grass came with the Ezekiel Ray party in 1805; and that his first residence was on land north of Sandy Creek Landing (section 5 in this township), though he did not enter this land until June, 1818. Grass soon returned to Kentucky and did not bring his family until several months later.

G. R. Enghof, Betsy Ray Grigsby's grandson, states that Fred Armstrong, a single man, also came with Ezekiel Ray, and his descendants are living in the county today.

And Jo. C. Pell, Lewisport, Ky., informs us that his great-aunt, Mrs. Hannah Curtis, came down the river from Shippingport (Louisville) about 1800 on a flatboat to Troy and crossed into Kentucky to the mouth of Blackford creek and then returned to Indiana and went over the Sandy Creek trail to Vincennes, where they remained some time and then proceeded to Paris, Ill., where the family settled.

Chapter III.—The Arrivals of the Year of 1809.

Lying east of Blackford creek, in Kentucky, is a fertile bottom land, known in the early days as Lewis Bottoms, and it is directly across the river from Little and Big Sandy creeks, and this fertile bottom received the accumulation of pioneer settlers, many of whom were waiting until it should be safe to cross the river and proceed to their desired destination in Indiana and Illinois. The Indians were, at times, much opposed to relinquishing their title and occupancy of this section of Indiana and even after the purchase of the land by the Government in August, 1805, many feared to come into the territory.

These settlers were kept from going westward and occupying what is now Daviess county, Ky., by the unfriendly attitude of William Smothers, who claimed this land (Daviess county) and did not want settlers or even squatters on it (George Honig says). Therefore these bottoms became quite thickly populated by 1809. Many of these settlers would not have come over for a number of years and perhaps until Indiana

had become a state, but the flood of 1809 drove them into action. The higher ground in Indiana then appeared quite attractive and about one hundred families were ferried by the Murphys during this freshet in their woodboats. These woodboats were used to deliver cordwood to the steamboats. An up-bound boat would tie a woodboat alongside and transfer the cordwood as it proceeded up-stream, casting the boat loose when empty and it would be caught by men watching for it.

It would be very interesting to read the entire list of families brought over at this time but no record is known and only by tradition can even a few be traced. Among them are the following:

Uriah Lamar and his step-sons, Ezekiel, James and Littleton Powell. Mr. Lamar married the widow, Hannah Morton Powell, somewhere on the journey between Duck river, Tenn., and the Lewis Bottoms. He entered land between the forks of the Sandy Creek trail, about a mile from the river, section 27, in 1812.

Elijah Lamar entered land in section 4, in the north tier of Hammond township, in January, 1819.

Sara Lamar entered land in section 10, west of the present Newtonville, in March, 1811.

Young Lamar entered land in section 27, Clay township, in December, 1817.

John S. Lamar settled in the eastern edge of Clay township and the present hamlet of Lamar is named in his honor.

Ezekiel Powell entered land in section 2, Hammond township, in September, 1817.

Frank and Raymond Lamar, said to be two more of the brothers coming into the territory at this time, did not enter land and documentary evidence is lost.

The Chinn brothers, Perry, Morgan and Levi, with their two sisters, are said to have come across the river in 1809 and settled in the edge of Warrick county not far from Salvin, and Morgan is listed among the early settlers of Pigeon township by Goodspeed (page 33). Jesse Isaac was also in the same party and his name is

also listed with that of Morgan Chinn. Wilson Wire and his family of eight children came across to Sandy Creek Landing and settled near the present town of Chrisney, according to his grandson, U. S. Lindsey, of the Rockport Journal.

William Black is said to have come in about the time of Ezekiel Ray by William Kellams (Rockport Democrat of March 17, 1860), and it is the opinion of the writer that he came in 1809.

These people came into this section and settled along the existing trails as a matter of expediency and their holdings and land entries help to prove the existence of these trails.

The big sensation among the entry of emigrants was the race to Vincennes in March, 1812, between Kelton Murray and Uriah Lamar. Ezekiel Powell, Uriah Lamar's stepson, had found a spring of fine water near Big Sandy Creek and not far from the Little Sandy trail as it meandered around the head of high water to the Big Sandy or main trail. This spring is about a mile from the river, in a straight line, and during the past autumn, dry as the season was, 1,500 gallons were dipped from it in one day and did not affect the water level. Uriah Lamar chose this site for his home and soon built a log cabin not far from it. Early in the morning of March 8 or 9, Kelton Murray slipped away with the evident purpose of entering this land at the Vincennes office. During the day Uriah Lamar heard of his departure and guessed the reason. So, quickly making his preparations, including the necessary cash, he left home at nightfall to overtake Murray if possible. He was on his best mount and caught Murray at his (Murray's) second night's stopping place, having traveled all night and all day. The remainder of the trip was made jointly and Lamar secured an agreement with Murray whereby Lamar was to enter the land office first. This permitted him to make the entry on his "improved" land before Murray applied. These entries were made March 25, 1812 (see Goodspeed, page 263). Mr. Lamar's home and store was burned within the memory of persons now living. It was a three-room cabin and the store was in the loft, which was entered upon a broad stair built on the outside. Lamar and Murray are both said to have conducted horse mills at an early day. Murray's entry of land was north and east of the Lamar entry.

It would be a valuable document today if the exact route of their journey could be found as it undoubtedly is the same that many pioneers traveled in later years.

—Note.—Continued research reveals but little to be changed in the above as published nearly six years ago.—Editor.

The first school in the community of record was taught by Thomas Miller (Hist. W.S.P. Cos., page 408) and later by Josiah Crawford, John Shrode, Aloysius Byrnes, Wilford Sarver and others. However, it is said that the first school was held on the Walnut Hill site, north of New Hope, and this is also the site of the first frame school building and the first free school; the latter about 1853.

And with the increase in the number of settlers along the trail and near it came the demand and opportunity for business and this site became a recognized port for the shipment of such produce, meats, hides, pelts, etc., as the country produced. Steamboats and flatboat vied for the patronage and the site of Grandview began to be known as the big shipping port of the county, and this title it held for some eighty years or longer, and into the memory of the present generation.

Outside of the shipping interests, the principal business place appears to have been the Basye store at New Hope and he carried a \$300 stock of goods (Hist. W.S.P. Cos., pages 272 and 442); and while he was the merchant at New Hope came the trying (depression) times of 1820 to 1830. This period of "hard times" (Ibid, page 445, Brown article) caused much of the merchandising to be carried on by barter, as the paper currency was worthless and coins were scarce. This is the period in which the bank at Vincennes failed (the state bank) and took with it the branches at Vevay, Corydon and Brookfield (Cockrum's Pioneer Hist. of Ind., page 403) and the bank at Madison also failed but paid out every dollar of its obligations. From the above reference it is found that the few Mexican silver coins in circulation were often cut into halves and quarters with cold chisels to make change. The flatboat business at this site may have alleviated the situation somewhat, but the fact remains that business was transacted under much difficulty. Mr. Taylor C. Basye, grandson of the New Hope Taylor Basye, states that an elderly man told him some years ago that he borrowed a silver dollar to make a purchase of an article from a "store boat" and that he was a full year in obtaining possession of a silver dollar to repay the loan. And yet the people lived well because they grew most of their needs. Parched wheat, rye and barley was used for coffee, sorghum for sweetening, and clothes were made from home spun wool and flax. State taxes increased fifty per cent. and the poll and property tax was added to the land tax. Counties and communities also demanded taxes (Cockrum, page 397).

And during the worst of these "hard times" came a wide-spread epidemic of billious fever and "milk sick." The billious fever was much like the yellow fever of the south (Cockrum, page 401) and chills and fevers were common. This caused many people to leave the rich river bottom lands and seek homes on the hills and, according to history many towns and cities were almost depopulated in southern Indiana, though

not much evidence has been found of this disease in Sandy Creek Landing annals. The dread milk sick was the distressing epidemic here and almost every autumn there were some deaths from this source. It is said that the deaths of Ezekiel Ray and Joshua Samuel Hammond came upon the same day of the month in 1818.

From the above we may learn that our early pioneers passed through experiences similar to those of the present generation.

FINDS OLD TAX RECEIPT

James F. Cooper, of Dale, has in his possession an old tax receipt issued to his great-grand-father, James Cooper, in May, 1815, for taxes due in 1814. A copy appeared in the Evansville Courier Monday and, if we deciphered it correctly, reads as follows:

"May, 1815, Recd of James Cooper 53 Cents in full of his Tax on his Tithe 2 horses. G. Smith, D.S. for F. Clarke, S.G.C."

This tax receipt is interesting for the reason it uncovers several items of history. It establishes that the Coopers were in the neighborhood of the later Lincoln home in 1814, before that part of the present Spencer county was set off from Gibson to Perry county by the Act of September 7, 1814, when P. Clarke was the sheriff of Gibson county. (See Goodspeed's History, page 598)

It also leads to speculation as to how early in 1814 he came into the territory. According to tradition, Reuben Grigsby came into the territory in 1814 and it is almost certain that he did not come alone. Grigsby and Cooper both married Barkers at Bardstown, Ky., and it is highly probable that these men came with others in early 1814 for the very evident reason that it was not safe to travel or to settle in this new country at that time alone. It may be that this tax receipt is a solution for part of the question as to who came with Grigsby in 1814 from the neighborhood of Bardstown.

Several other knotty problems of the early history of this section may be solved and set at rest by finding old letters, tax receipts, or other old documents now in possession of individuals. Why not hunt?

A NEW LINCOLN STORY

Condensed from Rural Progress
by Ed. V. Wilbern.

As told by Bill Bartlett, who
shook hands with Lincoln
at Cairo, Illinois,

Before sunrise people were coming from all part by wagon, buggy, and skiffs from Kentucky; many walking, which gave the little village the stir of a city. From St. Louis came a boat load of women in silk and men in Sunday best. Many came over the 120 miles of bad roads from St. Louis to hear their champion of slavery debate with Lincoln, the rough man from the prairie of poverty and want. How could he stand against the educated Douglas, the energetic, squat, rotund, little man that had everything at his finger tips.

The hall was filled to capacity and even the vestibule crowded with noise makers, boisterous with excitement, waiting impatiently for the speakers to appear at 10 a.m. When at that hour a small curtain opened at the rear of the platform and out came the quick walking Douglas, followed by the slower moving Lincoln.

Douglas lost no time; sprang into action with dynamic force, as was his style. His declamations fascinated the audience. He denounced the Abolitionists in embittered terms, and censured all Northerners for their attempted intrusion on property rights of their Southern brethren. He soared to a crushing finale that brought his political followers to their feet with cheers loud and long. Douglas had caught the crowd and fired it to a great approval.

The Lincoln partisans were disillusioned. Surely, the victories of Lincoln must have been a false report in the face of this supreme demonstrated by this educated statesman of deep wisdom.

As the cheering subsided, Lincoln's awkward frame reared its six feet to tower over and above the audience. He took just three steps to the center — long, slow movements. He set his traditional high silk hat on the small table bottom side up. He slowly took from the hat a sheaf of age-old yellow papers. A smothered titter ran along the west side of the hall as he shuffled his papers with a big, clumsy, work-calloused hand. He began to speak in his thin, falsetto voice, that seemed out of place coming from his bulky frame. Some people started to smile, but the smile soon changed to very serious attention when the import of his message came as enriched divine knowledge; he seemed to hold the key to the floodgates of understand-

to go. The crowd rejoiced, shook hands, and in time moved out.

I lingered behind. Douglas sat dejected; with disappointment written on his round, fat face. Lincoln, not in the least intoxicated by his overwhelming victory, saw and understood. Going to Douglas, he extended his hand. "My compliments, sir, on an admirably well done speech." Douglas, terribly depressed, the fire all out of his eyes, the contempt, all gone, rose to meet Lincoln and said: "I thank you, sir, but I do not consider myself even worthy to oppose you." This remark appeared to give the great man a pained feeling; his lower lip quivered, he trembled slightly as he said: "I thank you, sir." Then he passed out and as he brushed past me and took my hand, I heard him murmur, "What a pity we couldn't have been imbued with the same ideals. United we might have done great things for the Union."

A morning in Cairo, Ill., in 1858.

ing which he threw open to the audience with a great calmness, with a matchless humor, with touching pathos, he revealed a picture of slavery — a picture that touched the heart of every one. The intense silence of the listeners showed an irresistible influence to be felt by this gentle style of persuasion. He ended with a supreme tribute to the one thing so dear to him above all else — The Union. There was a hush as he ambled to his chair. Then came a mighty cheer that filled the outside with an echo. Cairo had never had such a crowd of excited people. They stood and cheered. No one wanted

LINCOLN AS A PATTERN

It is now about 300 years since the head of the Lincoln family—Samuel Lincoln—landed at Hingham, Mass., coming from Norwich, England. It is 129 years since the most illustrious scion — Abraham Lincoln — was born near Hodgenville, Ky., and 121 years since he left that state with his parents to become a Hoosier during the main formative years of his life; and 108 years since he became of age and left Indiana to seek greater opportunities in the state of Illinois.

The fine character that Abraham Lincoln formed and builded while living among the hills of southern Indiana has become almost a classic idea and example for the whole world, and many writers in America and foreign lands have endeavored to fathom the intricacies of his youth's environment and present the attributes that caused him to embody such exemplary traits in his character—a character that many writers have adjudged as one of the outstanding examples of Christian standards. His home life, the people with whom he mingled, the books he read, have all been carefully examined to learn the secret of his nobleness.

Arriving in Indiana about six weeks before his eighth birth anniversary, he remained until he was about six weeks beyond the age of twenty-one—often referred to as the "formative period of his life." Obtaining only the most meager rudiments of an education in the primitive schools of the neighborhood, he somehow caught the true objective of any real schooling and continued his education as long as he lived. That he obtained tutorage far beyond the local schooling of the time can not be denied—for he could not have made the attainments known to have been mastered soon after he left the state if this were not true.

One example of this education beyond the attainments of the local schools was the mastering of simple surveying in six weeks at New Salem, Ill., with the aid of a text book and the guidance of an old school teacher—a feat impossible for many today who hold high school diplomas. That there are other examples of like import we have no doubt.

And these formative years of his Indiana life are so rich in romance, tragedy, comedy, and even drama, that the Southwestern Indiana Civic Association, an organization formed among the descendants of the Lincoln neighbors and others, has offered a prize of \$1,000 for the best play that will present to the world the simplicity of his environment that enabled him to attain the great and lofty outstanding characteristics that enobled his life to make it such a worthy example that the best brains of the world like to hold it up as a true ideal of manhood.

But there is one feature of his entire life that many overlook—a feature that was manifest quite early and was in evidence throughout his busy life of private and national existence—and that was his fine example of tolerance and toleration. The world needs much of that feature of life today, for selfishness and intolerance have run rife throughout the whole gamut of private, social, financial and political ambition in community, state, nation and the world.

LINCOLN HISTORY STORIES

'Squire' Pate Home Demolished

All students of the Indiana life of Abraham Lincoln remember the story of Abe being enticed into the home of 'Squire' Pate by the Dill Brothers and then being charged with a violation of their rights as operators of the Thompson ferry. The home was adjoining the Thompson farm and was a pretentious mansion in those days. Abe plead his own case and proved he did not place his passengers on Kentucky soil but only took them to a steamboat on the Ohio river.

From that date until early last year this house stood as an interesting landmark of Kentucky Lincoln associations. It was about opposite the mouth of Crooked Creek, the Indiana landing of the Thompson ferry.

But the great flood of January and February, 1937, carried it away from its foundations and deposited it as a mass of debris near the bank of Blackford Creek and not far from the Kentucky highway 70. It is a strange feature of its history that the elements of nature should take it away from the site of the pioneer trail to Thompson's ferry and deposit it not far from the old Hartford and Vincennes trail that crossed the Ohio river at the mouth of Blackford Creek.

J. M. Wollner told the editor yesterday that the poplar logs of this historic building were being cut up and burned on tobacco beds. Mr. Wollner is a brother-in-law of Lem Waitman, over whose farm it floated and lodged not far from the boundaries of his farm.

Thus it is that all of the Lincoln landmarks of this section are being destroyed, one by one.

The editor hopes to have more conclusive proof than any he has heretofore published that the wreck of this old log house was carried to the trail used by the Lincoln family in the migration to Indiana. It is a matter past explanation that it should be taken from a site known to Abe's step-mother and wrecked on a site near which his mother passed when she came to Indiana.

LINCOLN HISTORY STORIES

Did Abe Lincoln Mend Boots and Shoes? Perhaps.

Mr. George H. Honig, of Rockport, former treasurer of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society, gave us the basis for the following and the editor has been trying to get the tie-up between the McFadden and Crook families before using it.

It appears that John McFadden was the first boot maker of the Gentryville neighborhood, and he died there late in the year of 1819 or quite early in 1820, leaving a wife and three small children.

The widow and Dr. Stephen Simms, of Rockport, became acquainted and in November gave her consent to become his wife. What to do with the children while they went to Rockport for the necessary license worried the mother and during a call at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln the need was met by the offer of the hospitality of the Lincoln home. This was approved by all concerned, and the Dr. and Mrs. Margaret McFadden started for Rockport: Mrs. McFadden on the trusty saddlehorse and the Doctor afoot. And you will find a record of their marriage license on the records of the county shortly before our usual date for Thanksgiving in 1820 (Nov. 20, 1820).

The license procured and the marriage solemnized, the couple started back to the Lincoln home. Upon arriving at this home the Doctor asked Mr. Lincoln what he should pay him for the care of the children, and Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln refused to make any charges. But it is said that Abe slipped over to his father and said in a stage whisper that all heard: "Ask for the boot mending outfit."

The Doctor would have no use for the outfit, neither would the bride, and it was agreed that the Lincolns should have the outfit.

Such an outfit in those days would likely consist of a pegging awl, a sewing awl, some beeswax and flax thread, perhaps a few wooden pegs, a limited number of lasts, a hammer, two or three boot trees, a clamp, and a pair of pliers. All could be conveniently carried in a gunny sack. The customer would furnish the leather.

As Abe brought a calf skin to the Hammond tanyard, at Grandview, in 1826 to have it tanned: it is possible that the Lincoln family made their footwear, and Abe may have repaired boots and shoes.

It is surmised that a daughter of Mrs. McFadden married a son of the pioneer school teacher Crooks, but a limited search of records and efforts to get the fact substantiated in family tradition have proved fruitless. There is, however, among the Crooks descendants a strong hint that this is true, but the younger folks paid so little attention to the statement in days when it could be verified that it is, apparently, lost today.

EARLY COUNTY LINES

Monte M. Katterjohn had a very fine historical article in the Boonville Standard last week dealing with the early history of southern Indiana and more especially of Warrick county.

According to maps accompanying the article, the first Warrick county, as established by Territorial Governor William Henry Harrison March 9, 1813, was an immense section, containing the territory south of Rector's Base Line, or south of the line between townships five and four from about the present Derby, in Perry county, west to the Wabash river. Gibson county was created at the same date and included territory to the north, and included much of the present Spencer county's Jackson and Clay townships and all of Carter and Harrison townships, and a small portion of Huff township.

In The Monitor of January 27, we called attention to a tax receipt held by James Cooper, of Dale, as signed by the sheriff of Gibson county. These maps sustain the statement.

By an Act of the Territorial Legislature of September 7, 1814, the present townships of Hammond and Huff were set off from Warrick county, and Clay, Carter and Harrison of Gibson county, with territory east of them to the then Harrison county, was set off to form the new Perry county; leaving the present Jackson township, likely in Warrick county.

Hammond and Huff townships, in the early days of the Warrick county affiliation, were called "Hurricane" township, and after Clay, Carter and Harrison were set off to Perry the name was applied to the entire section as originally set off from Gibson and Warrick counties.

January 10, 1818, the State Legislature set off Spencer county by taking Hurricane township from Perry county, and the present Ohio, Grass, Luce and Jackson townships from Warrick county.

In creating these various units from the original Knox county, all taxes were collectible by the county officers of the original unit; and all legal actions started before the date of separation were continued as though the new unit was not formed and jurisdiction remained in the original unit. Hence, the tax receipt, signed by the sheriff of Gibson county, was for taxes due that county previous to September 7, 1814, the date Perry county was created.

LINCOLN HISTORY STORIES

Grandmother's Monitor 3-24-38

The Shadrach Hall Family—

Wesley Slept With Lincoln

Shadrach Hall and Mary Bukay Greathouse were married in 1813 and to them were born eighteen children; and all lived to be grown but one, who died in infancy. The mother, Mary Hall, died in her forty-fifth year. She married when only fourteen years of age.

They came from Nelson county, Ky., on a flatboat in the early 1820s and located near the Santa Fe post-office, now called Santa Claus. This farm joined the Lincoln farm. (Rev. J. Ed. Murr interviewed Wesley Hall years ago and quotes Wesley as stating the Hall farm was four miles east of the Lincoln farm.—Editor.) Wes and Randolph Hall were the oldest boys of this big family, and could tell many things about the Lincolns. Although Abe Lincoln was ten years older, Wes and Abe slept together one night.

Some years later the Halls moved near Rockport; to a farm located on the east side of the Silverdale road where now stands an oil station. In the year 1900 my grand-mother and myself drove a horse and buggy to Rockport from Eureka; and she indicated to me where the house stood. She said her father built a new log house of two big rooms and a porch between, and a half-story above. The house was plastered and was very modern for those days. They moved into the house March 10, 1827, and the next day my grand-mother was born. The family must have lived there for some ten years, for in 1837 Shadrach Hall was elected sheriff of Spencer county, being the eleventh sheriff. John Harris preceded him and Lewis Algor succeeded him.

My grand-mother went to school in Rockport in a log school house. Uncle Wes Hall lived in Rockport a number of years. He was an auctioneer of the town and all lots on the flatboat on the Ohio river. After leaving Rockport he made frequent trips to visit his sister, Mrs. Jamima Stowers, and friends. When eighty-five years old he drove a horse and sulky cart from Morganfield, Ky., to Rockport to make a visit. I remember accompanying him to Rockport in that cart. He took care of horse himself and was spry as a boy.

My grand-mother had the largest family of all the Shadrach Hall children: being the mother of eight.—Leni L. Bennett.

Hall and Wes always talked about Abe Lincoln.

And Dr. S. W. Stuteville knew Wesley Hall and relates that Wesley and his father, John G. Stuteville, flatboated together. On one of Wesley's visits he met Dr. Stuteville and asked about his father, John G. Stuteville, and during the conversation related the following story:

"I had been sent to mill with a sack of corn and was late getting started home: on horseback. Soon after I left the mill it began to snow and when I reached the Lincoln home, which I must pass, they insisted that I pass the night with them as I had too far to go in that snow storm. Abe came out in his bare feet—he had cut his foot with an axe and walked on his heel—and took the sack of meal into the house. Mr. Lincoln took the horse to the stable and when we returned I went with Abe and his mother to the smoke-house to get a piece of meat. The lamp was a hollowed-out turnip filled with fat in which a wick had been placed. Mrs. Lincoln took meal from the sack and made bread. After the social chat following the meal Abe and I climbed into the loft, and I slept with him in his bed. The next morning I took the meal, what was left, and went home." (For account of Rev. J. Ed. Murr, see Indiana Magazine of History, volume 13, number 4, December, 1917, page 325.)

Shadrach Hall was born Jan. 19, 1789, and died February 17, 1856; his wife was born March 8, 1799, and died Nov. 21, 1844. Births of the children: Mary Ann Oct. 9, 1815; America Oct. 29, 1816; Eliza B. March 30, 1818; J. Wesley June 28, 1819; Randolph April 17, 1821; Harom G. Sept. 30, 1822; Massy Ann Jan. 23, 1824; Bukay Sept. 7, 1825; Jamima March 11, 1827; Isaac Oct. 22, 1828; Elizabeth Oct. 28, 1830; Luther Jan. 8, 1832; Nathan Nov. 17, 1833; J. Porter Aug. 27, 1835; Shadrach Dec. 28, 1837; Joseph W. July 28, 1838; James W. July 24, 1840; V. Fanny Dec. 5, 1843.

Abe borrowed a Life of Washington from Shadrach Hall and returned it. Abe was the hero-ideal of Wesley

LINCOLN HISTORY STORIES

According to a story in the Indianapolis News by William Herschel, the body of Abraham Lincoln was given quite an ovation in that city seventy-three years ago Saturday, the date being April 30, 1865. The special train bearing the body and accompanying notables paused on the trip from Washington to Springfield, Ill., in order that Hoosiers might give him honor. A reproduction of some of the printed matter announcing the details of the program was also shown.

According to a special article in Sunday's Evansville Courier, the body of Judge John Pitcher lies unmarked in a graveyard near Mt. Vernon, in Posey county. It was while Judge Pitcher was a lawyer in Rockport that he loaned books to young Abe Lincoln.

It is with regret that history students find a large number of unmarked graves of persons who were prominent in the stirring pioneer period of southern Indiana, and the unmarked grave of Judge Pitcher is one among many others. And even family records become lost or otherwise destroyed valuable data and contacts are thoroughly out of reach.

LINCOLN HISTORY STORIES

Abe's Flatboat Trip With Gentry

When Abe Lincoln left Rockport in 1826 with Allen Gentry on a flatboat trip to the "lower coast," there evidently was an additional character aboard who is seldom mentioned in history books. However, some historian mentions that Abe and this extra hand became involved in an argument one day and Abe threw him overboard; and then jumped in after him when Abe realized that he could not swim, and brought him safely to the shore. It is reported that the event did not mar their friendship.

It would, indeed, be quite a small boat with only two men in charge, and one of them the owner, proprietor and captain. It is also claimed that the boat was beset by robbers at one landing place, but the men crew routed the assailants and then "cut loose" their lines and left the landing.

Some writers claim it was on this trip that Abe saw slaves sold from the "block" in New Orleans, and other writers claim it was while on a trip from Illinois that this incident took place. However, it is said that when he saw this auction of human being he made the statement that if ever he had a chance he would hit the practice and hit it hard. He did.

However, on this flatboat trip with Allen Gentry he was accompanied by a slave sympathizer in the person of Zeb Murphy, the third hand on the boat and likely the linesman.

Zeb's uncle, Allen Murphy, owned numerous slaves, at the close of the Civil War in the neighborhood of Memphis, Tenn., and these were set at liberty by the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln, and caused Zeb Murphy to tell Will Ferguson and others in 1876 that his father and uncles ferried the Lincolns across the Ohio river when they came to Indiana and, God, I wish they had drowned the whole bunch because Abe set the d—d nigger free.

Zeb Murphy lived to quite an old in the neighborhood of Lamar, this county, and is buried near that place. He was a typical man of the pioneer type and full of superstition (and sometimes full of whiskey); and the following story is told about him:

Zeb's Stunt for Good Luck

For years Zeb rode a gray mule in his travels about the country, and

it is said that on the first day of April he always mounted his mule backwards and rode some distance, perhaps a mile, driving the mule while watching the road to the rear and carrying a sack of salt in one hand and a sack of eggs in the other. If he succeeded in carrying the salt and eggs without accident to the end of the journey he would have good luck throughout the year.

The Murphys conducted the ferry at the site of the present Grandview, beginning about 1808 and had quite a business in 1809 and 1814 when many settlers crossed the river here, some locating in the county and others going farther west and even into Illinois; and, according to tradition, the ferry passed through numerous hands until within the memory of

some of our older citizens of today. Descendants of the Murphys claim that the printing press and paper for the first publications at Vincennes were ferried at this place while being transported by pack-mule. No documentary record of such ferry has been found by the writer but there is much contributory evidence in the trail crossing and settlers going over the route, much of which has been presented at length in these columns heretofore. Other items above mentioned have been secured through approved and tested traditional sources.

LINCOLN HISTORY STORIES

Taylor Basye, the New Hope Merchant, and the Lincoln Saddle

Taylor Basye, the New Hope merchant from 1821 to 1829, may have sold to Abe Lincoln the saddle which he presented his sister, Sarah and she rode to Kentucky on her bridal trip after marrying Aaron Grigsby, one hundred and twelve years ago this month.

The Basye store was on the eastern branch of the Yellow Banks Trail and about a mile from the bank of the Ohio river, and this eastern branch was used at times when the other branch became boggy, though it entered the main trail within the county. Basye also shared some of the ideals and beliefs of young Abe Lincoln on the slavery and temperance topics, and it would be perfectly natural for Abe to buy the saddle from the largest stock in the county and where there was a congenial attitude toward the purchaser.

Taylor Basye was born in Virginia in 1788, came to Kentucky with his parents, and thence to Grass township, this county, when thirty-two years of age, and a few months later located at New Hope, in Hurricane township, and opened a store with about a three hundred dollar stock of goods consisting of calico, sugar, tea, coffee, salt, ammunition, saddles, leather, harness, etc., which he traded for furs, skins, feathers, and other produce of the pioneers. With this barter system his business flourished during the time of currency scarcity and general hard times. He later went to New York State, thence to Kentucky and promoted a lot sale at Taylorville, Spencer county, thirty miles southwest of Frankfort and thirty-three miles southeast of Louisville; and returned to Indiana in 1839 and located at Troy where he entered the drug business.

Tom Lincoln and son, Abe, often traded at his New Hope store when returning from Sandy Creek Landing, to which place they hauled much produce for Reuben Grigsby; and Tom Lincoln built some flatboats here for Grigsby in which Grigsby shipped his produce to southern markets. The Lincoln family also often visited the Ray family at Sandy Creek Landing and were much more than occasional visitors in the community.

Basye was a resourceful business man and had "side lines" in that early day; and one of these was to enter land for prospective settlers by making the trip to Vincennes for them. At one time he was so personally

engaged that he could not make the trip as needed and therefore sent his wife on the long, lonesome, ninety-mile horseback journey to Vincennes to make the required entry. He also reached out into other channels of merchandising and even was responsible for a few trips of a "glass boat" — a flatboat loaded with glassware from up-river points and selling its wares at the various stops as it came down the river.

While a resident of Troy he served in more than one public office in Perry county with credit to himself and constituents. He died in Perry county in 1857.

LINCOLN HISTORY STORIES

Abe Hears Lawyers Plead at a Murder Trial in 1828

Several historians of Lincoln's life mention a murder trial in 1828 at which Abe heard a lawyer plead. Details of this trial are confusing in the published accounts and still more confusing when compared with local tradition accounts.

According to the local tradition, the crime for the subject of this trial took place in Grass township, Spencer county; but there is some thing so very, very sinister concerning the incidents connected therewith that very few of the descendants of the neighbors near the scene will talk about it, much less give particulars, and those farther away will give one hints that it is best not to disturb an old corpse now one hundred and ten years old.

But there are some features of this famous trial that can be told with safety and propriety: for so famous did it become that credit for certain features have been claimed by others.

Claims of Others

Some historians claim it took place at Boonville, but the Warrick county records are claimed to be the most perfect of any in southwestern Indiana and the first murder trial to be started in that county was in October, 1839 (1), eleven years later; and there is no transcript to be found (2) from Spencer county. Kentucky historians have tried to make it appear that John C. Breckenridge, of Elizabethtown, Ky., was the lawyer—but John C. Breckenridge was only fourteen years of age in 1828 (3).

The Two Lawyers

According to tradition, the lawyers in this case were John Pitcher and John A. Brackenridge; both of whom were residents of Rockport in 1822. Some claim that Brackenridge was the prosecuting attorney of "the circuit" in 1828, and Pitcher appeared for the defendant, who was adjudged innocent. Pitcher was postmaster at Rockport (4) and also sheriff of Spencer county (5), and William G. Thomas was coroner (6). But, the position held by these lawyers in the case is not material to this story. Let's learn of the qualifications of these lawyers.

John Pitcher's Education

John Pitcher was born at Watertown, Conn., (7) about 1794, and was a student in the first law school in the United States. This Litchfield Law School was only ten miles from Pitcher's birthplace, and was founded (8) by Tapping Reeve (1744-1823), a graduate and tutor of the College of New Jersey later known as Princeton University, in 1784. Eleven years later he was assisted by James Gould (1770-1838), a graduate of Yale University, until the school passed out of existence about 1838. Both its founder and superintendent were

horseback to Rockport, Ind. His son, Thomas Gamble Pitcher was born at Rockport in 1828, and his wife died the same year and is buried in the old cemetery at Rockport. Later he married Amanda Cissna, whose ancestors came into Indiana with Clark's Expedition (7). In 1830 the family moved to Mt. Vernon, Indiana. Judge Pitcher was tendered a position on the United States Supreme Court during the administration of President U. S. Grant but declined the honor (7).

Brackenridge Learned Debating

John A. Brackenridge entered the College of New Jersey, later Princeton University, from Washington, D. C., May 8, 1817 (9), was a sophomore in November, 1817, and entered the junior grade in December, 1818, of the Fine Arts course as the law course was not started until 1846. For two years he was a member of the Cliosophic Society, an under graduate literary and debating organization. He completed three scholastic years but did not enter the senior grade. Soon after leaving this school he came West and lived at Rockport a short time and then located in Warrick county, perhaps near Darlington or Newburg. He married Miss Isabella H. McCulla, of Boonville, April 2, 1827, (10) in his twenty-seventh year, and a few months later became a resident of that town.

These men were quite well matched in oratory and jurisprudence and could bring the judge, jury and spectators to laughter or tears at their whim. Brackenridge was the most cunning of the two and could cover his points better than Pitcher, but never so deeply that Pitcher could not discern them (11). It is said their superiors were unknown in southwestern Indiana for that period.

The sons of both men were prominent in government positions during the Civil War: two of Pitcher's sons being in the Army (7), and a son of Brackenridge holding an administrative position (10).

At this trial it is undoubtedly true that Aaron Grigsby, Abe's brother-in-law who had recently returned from Hampden-Sidney College, Va., (12) was instrumental in bringing a delegation from the Lincoln neighborhood to hear the lawyers plead, which was a custom in those days. Grigsby undoubtedly knew of their schooling and talents and was anxious to get first-hand examples of oratory and jurisprudence, as the details of this crime had made a real stir throughout the county. And Abe Lincoln was a member of the delegation and especially admired the speech by Brackenridge. Later Abe had access to the library of both of these lawyers.

Documentary evidence of the other features of this trial were destroyed when the Spencer county court house was burned in September, 1833.

members of the Connecticut supreme court, and Reeve was chief justice in 1814. This school has among its alumni some of the most prominent jurists and some cabinet officers of the period.

From Connecticut to Rockport John Pitcher married Miss Eliza Gamble a scion of a family of Navy men, in 1816, and almost immediately started West, making the trip by

These two lawyers may have been "trons" for educational advantages of that period, but a charter upon the schooling of some of the lesser characters, especially within ten miles of the Lincoln home, would be interesting reading.

Readers wishing the documentary citations may obtain same by addressing this office and enclosing the return postage.

May 23 1939

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The MONITOR

Entered at Grandview, Ind., under second-class postage rates.

C. T. Baker, Editor and Publisher.

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We congratulate the officers of the Spencer County Historical Society upon their plans to hold the Nancy Hanks Lincoln memorial service in the Lincoln Village, Rockport, instead of in the Lincoln state park. The society started years ago to hold an annual memorial service at the grave of Mrs. Lincoln on the Sunday preceding Decoration Day. Since the state has taken over the grave site and surrounding land, obtained by Spencer county citizens, it has sought to have a recreational park in connection and has moved the shelter pavilion into the picnic area and now demands an admittance fee for its use. The plan has not found favor with Spencer county citizens and the continued decrease in attendance at these service caused the society to abandon the service at the grave. We are informed that the indication is for a very worthy program this year and the Rockport City Park is available for this service. Following the service in the Lincoln Village, the usual wreath to adorn the grave will be taken to the grave and devoutly placed as of yore.

An old saying is to the effect that adversity makes character, but prosperity ruins it. The truth of the statement was brought home to the editor a few days ago in remarks concerning acquaintances. It has proven true in years of the past and is equally true today. There are too many people who can not plan for adversity in prosperous times and when the evil days come are not prepared for them. Prosperity is fleeting and the "hard times" always appear the longest. Some of our finest characters have seen the most adversity. Is it not true?

The last entries in the Lincoln Day Writing Contest are due to arrive in Boonville in a few days. It is reported that about one hundred entries have been received and the remainder will arrive by Saturday-a-week. A few of the contestants used the "Hints and Helps" prepared by the editor of this paper, and he has received some very complimentary communications for the assistance these hints and helps have proven to be. Likewise, the questions coming from these contestants have proven an incentive for further research by the editor, and he thanks them for their help in this line.

Politics appear to be working to the Nth degree in America today and the wonder is that true American ideals can stand up under the load. Much more happiness would be brought to all citizens if more solid national and state business principles were used.

Gardens are being plowed this week and farmers are sowing oats and will soon be preparing for the corn crop.

INDIANA - GRANDVIEW , SPENCER COUNTY

One of the tablets on the marker in Grandview reads: "Abraham Lincoln traveled this way—1821-1830—hauling hoop poles with ox team to river landing; visited Ezekiel Ray, the old block house, Hammond's tannery; traded jokes and wrestled with pioneer boys of Hammond township."

A HOOSIER LISTENING POST

BY KATE MILNER RABB

Some interesting markers were placed in Spencer county last week by the Grand View Lincoln Trail Club. This little town on the Ohio river is in the Lincoln country and many of its citizens are members of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society and the Spencer County Historical Society, whose work for some years has been the study of Spencer county history at the time of the residence there of the Lincoln family. The Grand View Lincoln Trail Club was organized last year with seventy-five charter members for the purpose of collecting and compiling historical data in Grand View and Hammond township.

One of the markers unveiled on the 119th anniversary of Lincoln's birth stands in front of the Grand View library and the bronze marker bears the inscription: "Abraham Lincoln traveled this way hauling hoop poles with an ox team to the river landing; visited Ezekiel Ray—the old blockhouse — Hammond's tannery, and traded jokes and wrestled with the pioneer boys in Hammond township." The other, at the New Hope Church, about a mile from Grand View, has the inscription, "Lincoln traveled this way, 1821-1830." This marker is near the site of the Taylor Basye store, where the pioneers, among them the Lincolns, for miles around did their "trading," and one of the tablets on the marker describe the store: "Taylor Basye carried \$300 worth of stock—calico, sugar, coffee, ammunition, saddles, leather, harness, etc. Exchanged wares for fur skins, feathers and produce shipped at stated seasons to market." In those days \$300 was an enormous stock. The grandson of Taylor Basye, the storekeeper, a namesake of his grandfather, lives

at Grand View and for whom Hammond township is named. One of the stories handed down in the Hammond family illustrates Lincoln's dry humor—it is that of Lincoln's tossing the skin of a newly killed calf to the tanner, saying, "Here is my father's hide and he wants it tanned."

Near the site of this marker was also the first school, built of logs, as was the Basye store, and, Jonathan Prosser was the teacher. It is said now that Lincoln credited Prosser with having given him much help in his education.

One of the most interesting features of the unveiling of the markers, aside from the fact that George Honig, the Evansville sculptor, who designed them, is a native of Spencer county and one of the most interested students of its history, is the number of descendants of pioneers who were present at the unveiling ceremonies. One of them was a Mrs. Elizabeth Lamar Anderson, 88 years old, grandniece of Ben Lamar, the first justice of the peace for Spencer county. Ben Lamar loaned books to Abraham Lincoln and the two families were closely associated. Another was P. Alfred Hammond of Grand View, 94 years old, whose father kept the tannery in Rockport and is president of the Spencer County Historical Society.

Three civil war veterans were at the unveiling who had voted for Lincoln—Col. James A. Wright, 96 years old, who said he traveled from Memphis, Tenn., partly by foot, to get to Rockport in time to vote for Lincoln; Henry VanOstrand of Evansville, who heard Lincoln speak at Philadelphia; P. A. Hammond of Grand View, who is 94 years old.

One of the exhibits at Grand View on the day of the unveiling was one of the millstones on which the Lincoln corn was ground when they lived in Indiana. "It must weigh a thousand pounds," says the writer of the account of the unveiling. "It came from the Kentucky river, brought by Ben Lamar on a pirogue, a log dug-out boat. Ben Lamar traded a black saddle horse for a pair of the millstones, riding the horse to the quarry and riding the pirogue back with the millstones. Kentucky river millstones, incidentally, were known as the best, next to the choice ones which came from France."

